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COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. V.---NO. 23. WEEKLY EDITION. APRIL 11, 1868.

PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL.

PUBLISHED DAILY BY
THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY.

OFFICE, 76 FIFTH STREET.
(OPPOSITE POSTOFFICE.)

C. D. BRIGHAM, ... *Editor.*
R. D. THOMPSON, - *Business Manager.*

TERMS OF THE DAILY:

Single Copy..... 5 Cents.
Delivered by Carrier, (per week)..... 25 Cents.
Mail Subscribers, (per year)..... $10 00.
Address THE COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

DRIVING THE COW.

[From Our Young Folks, for April.]

The grass is green on Billy's grave,
The snow is on my brow,
But I remember still the night
When we two drove the cow:
The buttercups and tangled weeds,
The goldfinch pecking thistle-seeds,
The small green snake amid the brake,
The white flowers on the bough,
And Billy with his keen, gray eyes—
I seem to see them now:

O, Billy was my first of friends;
Our hearts were warm and light;
The darkest of November rains
Had, shared with him, seemed bright;
And far too brief for boyish play
Had been the summer's longest day.
But powerless fell Love's magic spell—
Its charm was lost that night;
It needed but one word, and we
Were both in for a fight:
One word! 'twas Billy spoke that word;
But, sore at heart, I know
I was another hurt than his
That dealt the earliest blow.
He touched my forehead's longest curl,
And said, "Ha! John! my pretty girl!"
A jest'r not, my blood was hot,
My cheek was all aglow;
"Take that! Take that! Say could a girl,
A girl, have stricter vow so?"

But Billy was as stout as I;
The scar upon my brow
The memory of his prowess keeps
Before me even now.
His furious blows fell thick and fast;
But just as I had thought, at last,
That yield I must, a skillful thrust
I gave, I know not how,
And, a triumphant foe, I quere,
I went on for my cow!

We never were firm friends again,
Before the spring time air
Again the graveyard flowers made sweet,
Poor Billy rested in rest,
And I, since then have wandered wide,
And seen the world on every side
By land and sea, and learned—what me!—
That warm, true hearts are rare!
And he who best loved me on earth
Has not one friend to spare!

The grass is green on Billy's grave,
My brow is white with snow;
I never can win back again
The love I used to know:
The past is past; but, though for me
Its joys are over in memory,
'Tis only pain to call again
The kindness of my friend,
And worse to feel that in a fight
I dealt the earliest blow!

MARIAN DOUGLAS.

THE SUGAR SEASON.

BY ALICE CARY.

Now the winter winds retire,
And the bleak winter ice is breaking,
And the old folks by the fire
Sit and talk of sugar making.

'Tis the wild and windy March,
And the month the equation settles,
That 'tis time to mend the a-ch
And to scour the rusty ket-les:

Time to set the hut to rights,
When the cold no longer bothers;
T'end the furnace fire o' nights,
In the rough and rainy weather.

Time to hew and shape the trough,
And to notch the spiles so hollow,
For the snow is thawing off,
And the sugar-thaw must follow.

Soon the blue-birds and the bees,
O'er the o-pen fields are ringing:
So 'tis time to tap the trees,
And to set the a-xe ringing.

Oh, the gladdest time of year
Is the merry sugar making,
When the swallows first appear,
And the sleepy buds are waking!

A PATRIOTIC FAMILY.

Five Sons, Son-in-Law and Business Partner in Service.

A. Glenn, Esq., of Eddyville, Armstrong county, Pa., had his five sons, son-in-law and business partner in the Union army during the rebellion, as follows:

Abram B. Glenn enlisted August 29, 1861, in Company B, 78th Regiment Pennsylvania Infantry, which joined Negley's Brigade, and was ordered to Kentucky in October. Was seized with an attack of bronchitis while accompanying his regiment on its march from Mumfordsville, Kentucky, to Nashville, Tennessee, and left February 23d, 1862, with others at Bowling Green, Kentucky, where a hospital was improvised for their accommodation; was detailed as nurse on the 6th of April, in which capacity he served, being subsequently transferred to Nashville, Tenn., until September, when at his own request he was returned to his regiment. February 24, 1863, he was detailed from his regiment and served successively on the escorts of Generals Negley, Grant and Palmer; was discharged by reason of expiration of service, October 13th, 1864, at Kittanning, Pa. During his enlistment he served in the following engagements: Stone River, Hoover's Gap, Elk River, Bailey's Cross Roads, Chickamauga, Tunnel Hill, Buzzards' Roost, Resaca, Kingston, New Hope Church, Big Shanty, Kenesaw Mountain and Chattahoochee.

Elijah C. T. Glenn enlisted August 20th, 1861, in Company B, Seventy-Eighth Pennsylvania Infantry, and was with his regiment in all its movements until the expiration of his term of service except the interval from April 8th to August 19th, in 1864, during which he served on General Palmer's escort. He was attended with remarkably good health; was never an inmate of a hospital and off duty but a few days. He took part in the following battles, together with the usual skirmishing which attends a regiment in active service: Lavergne, Stone River, Hoover's Gap, Lookout Mountain, and Missionary Ridge; was promoted to sergeant, in which rank he was discharged.

James A. Glenn enlisted July 4th, 1861, in Company I, 62d Pennsylvania Infantry, (Col. Samuel Black, commanding,) and was with his regiment in the following engagements: Yorktown, Hanover C. H., Mechanicsville, Gaine's Hill, Malvern Hills, Harrison's Landing, Second Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Manassas Gap, Rappahannock Station, Mine Run and Wilderness where he was dangerously wounded in the arm on the 6th of May, 1864. Was five days in Government wagons, enduring with others almost incredible suffering before a more comfortable method of transportation could be procured. At one time his life was despaired of, but subsequently partially recovered, owing, no doubt, in part to the attention shown him among others by Miss Marsh, of Massachusetts, a volunteer nurse in Armory Square Hospital, Washington, D. C. He was not able to return home till more than a month after the expiration of his time, and has never fully recovered. Prior to being wounded he was never an inmate of a hospital and seldom off duty. He was discharged as Corporal.

Archy D. Glenn enlisted as Sergeant, August 20th, 1861, in Co. B, 78th Pennsylvania Infantry, (Col. Wm. Sirwell commanding), and accompanied his regiment to Kentucky. Was prostrated with the camp fever and dysentery from January 1st, 1862, on account of disability, on February 16th, 1863. Re-enlisted in the State troops in July of same year; discharged when the troops were discharged.

William T. Glenn enlisted when not quite 16 years of age, in Co. F, 80th Pennsylvania Infantry, on August 1st, 1861. Was sent to Camp Hamilton, near Fortress Monroe, and in October to Hatteras Island, N. C., in the vicinity of which his company remained until July, 1863, when the 80th was ordered to join the Potomac Army, with which it was identified till after the sanguinary conflict at Fredericksburg under Gen. Burnside when it was ordered to Kentucky on its way through Baltimore he was left in the hospital, having been suffering for some time with inflammatory rheumatism, resulting from the exposure in the Fredericksburg campaign, and from which he was discharged on the 8th of April, 1863. During the enlistment he participated in the following general engagements: Second Bull Run, Chantilla, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg, together with numerous of less note. Though not fully recovered, he could not resist the temptation to re-enlist in the State service, when Pennsylvania was invaded in July. Was discharged when the troops were disbanded; again re-enlisted for three years in company M, 3d Pennsylvania Cavalry, in March, 1864; subsequently transferred to company K as a supernumerary and promoted to corporal; followed his regiment through all its vicissitudes about Richmond, participating in numerous engagements, and recommended on account of meritorious conduct for commission as Second Lieutenant, but before it was issued Lee had surrendered, and his old complaint compelled him to the hospital at Philadelphia, where he served as Corporal.

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The coal shaft in Washington has proved a success. The proprietors are now furnishing the citizens of Washington with good coal at six and seven cents per bushel, which is less than Pittsburgh pays for the article.

R. M. Gibson, Esq., who is about to locate in Pittsburgh and practice law, was entertained at the Fulton House, Washington, on Monday evening, by his brethren of the Washington county bar.

Rev. Dr. Gerhart of Franklin and Marshall College, has signified his purpose to accept the professorship in the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, to which he was elected by the Synod at its late meeting at Harrisburg, and will enter upon the duties of his new sphere at as early a day as possible.

Hon. Thad. Stevens's housekeeper at Lancaster had her pocket picked in that city, Wednesday morning, as she was about leaving for Washington.

A married woman named Bingham, who moved from New York to Mend township, Crawford township, committed suicide one day last week by taking arsenic. She was laboring under a temporary fit of insanity.

About five o'clock on Monday afternoon a fire broke out at one of the Skinner wells on the Alex. Boyd Farm, near Titusville, which destroyed several oil tanks and a quantity of crude oil. The smoke from the burning oil was seen at a considerable distance from the scene of the fire, and attracted general attention.

John Craig, Sr., of West Franklin township, Armstrong county, died recently, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. Mr. C. has been a resident of that county for upwards of sixty years, and was one of our most worthy and useful citizens.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania, through the District Deputy, Rev. J. D. Herr, has called a convention of the Good Templars of Washington county to meet at Washington on the fourth Tuesday (21st) of April at ten o'clock, A. M. Each Lodge is to be represented by a full delegation, and several eminent temperance lecturers have been engaged for the occasion.

The Governor has just appointed the following Trustees of the Pennsylvania State Lunatic Hospital: Traill Green, M. D., of the county of Northampton, vice James J. Barclay, Esq., of the city of Philadelphia, resigned. John L. Atlee, M. D., of the county of Lancaster, and Daniel W. Gross, Esq., of the county of Dauphin, for the term of three years each, to be computed from the seventh day of February last past.

Juniata county is to vote for or against the removal of the county seat from Mifflintown to Perrysville, on the 15th day of October next.

There is a stage driver in Pike county, named David Starner, who has driven stage for the last forty years, averaging thirty miles per day. Deducting the Sundays from forty years, leaves 14,600 days, which, at thirty miles a day for working days, which at thirty miles a day makes a total of three hundred and seventy-five thousand six hundred, equivalent to fifteen times the distance round the world, and six hundred miles. He is now sixty years of age, and is hale and hearty.

The Chambersburg *Repository* says: This is the year for the reappearance of the seventeenth year locusts. These insects made their first chronicled appearance here in 1799, and returned every seventeen years after that time. They last appeared in 1852, of which many of our readers doubtless have a distinct recollection.

The wheat crop in Franklin county is represented to present an excellent appearance, and a heavy yield is anticipated.

A child of Mr. Daniel Wier, of Homer, Indiana county, last week, fell headlong into a posthole filled with water, and was drowned.

Rev. R. S. Thorain has been dismissed by the congregation of the Eleventh Baptist Church, Philadelphia. It was at this church that the row occurred last Sunday.

George Black, a daring burglar and store robber, made his escape from the Philadelphia Penitentiary a few days ago by bribing a keeper to let him walk in the corridor. On Friday night Leonard Grimes, John Wood and Daniel Burk, all noted thieves, dug their way out of the Moyamensing prison, Philadelphia, and made their escape.

In Philadelphia Friday afternoon the horse attached to a carriage containing Mr. and Mrs. William McMichael, took fright and threw them both to the ground. They were removed to their residence and medical aid summoned, but Mrs. McMichael died in the evening from the effects of the injuries received. Mr. McMichael is an internal revenue inspector.

Navigation is expected to open on Erie Extension canal about the 20th of April. The damage suffered by it during the winter and spring is said to be unusually light.

The Right Rev. Kerfoot, Bishop of Pittsburgh, administered the holy rite of Confirmation to some sixteen persons, on Thursday evening last, in St. John's Church, at Sharon.

One day last week a young man, named Jas. Carkuff, while at work tending a shingle machine at Wm. Grimes' saw mill, on Crawford county, in some manner caught one of his hands in the saw, cutting it nearly off just below the wrist.

The pupils of the Soldiers' Orphans School, at White Hall, gave an entertainment in Harrisburg Friday evening, which was largely attended. Governor Geary was present and addressed the children a few minutes. In speaking to the latter he denied that the care of these orphan children on the part of the Commonwealth, was a charity. It was simply an attempt to pay part of a debt, the whole of which could never be paid. These children, whose fathers had died for their country, and it was but a small thing for us to take care of those little tax payers.

He commended the wisdom of his predecessor in the Executive chair, (Gov. Curtin) who conceived the design of founding these schools and successfully carried them into execution. Pennsylvania was the only State which had thus provided for her soldiers' orphans, and he felt proud of her position on this question.

Shad fishing has commenced in the Delaware river, and this week will be fairly underway. A fine run of this luscious fish is anticipated. It is said that in ordinary seasons two men frequently catch from two hundred to four hundred shad in a day—which they sell at from $19 to $40 per hundred.

The Treasurer of the Soldiers Monument Association, of Lebanon, Pa., has paid back to the parties from whom they were received, their contributions for the monument which it was proposed to erect in that borough. The amount was $2,393 74, including the contribution of Mr. Coleman of $1,082 10—his pay for one session as member of the Legislature. It seems that the parties interested could not agree about the site and management of the funds and so the project falls through.

General W. W. H. Davis and Dr. A. D. Markley, defeated candidates for the Democratic nomination for Auditor General, were both elected Councilmen of Doylestown, on the 30th ult.

The Reading *Dispatch*, referring to a contemplated improvement in that city, speaks of a "three story brick *dwelling* for *business* purposes."

The Meadeville *Republican*, speaking of Hon. Darwin A. Finney, M. C., says: Mr. and Mrs. Finney returned to Rome on the third of March, having proceeded prior to that time as far south as Sicily. Mr. Finney is cheerful, but does not consider his European tour a success in a sanitary sense.

While laying the plank on a new bridge over Stony creek, Johnstown, on Friday, 28th ult., the bridge fell, precipitating some half dozen persons into the creek. Mr. Wesley Rose had his left arm and one of his ankles severely sprained. The wife of Rev. Jonathan Bowen was much bruised but no bones broken. She was rescued from what would perhaps have been a watery grave by the extraordinary efforts of Mrs. Rose. Clark Brinker, a boy, had one leg broken above the ankle. All the injured are doing well.

Martin Santo attempted to jump on a passing train at Harrisburg, Friday afternoon, missed his footing and fell under the wheels and had both of his lower limbs shockingly mangled. The surgeons amputed both legs at the knees.

The Kuklux Klan have reached Uniontown. The *Genius* announces that the Klan will meet at "D 3 on 1, 7 L," wherever that means.

Doctor Peffer, who killed Mr. Cole in Gettysburg a few weeks since, has been transferred from the Adams county jail to the Pennsylvania State Lunatic Asylum. His insanity is of a very violent character.

The Harrisburg *Telegraph* says: We have been informed that the Pennsylvania Central Railroad company yesterday reduced the wages of the employees in their shops. All who were receiving two dollars per day were subjected to a reduction of from ten to twenty cents on the dollar, and those receiving from one to two dollars per day to a reduction of from five to ten cents on the dollar. The average reduction will amount to about 7 3-10 per cent.

The discovery of black band in Schuylkill county was accidental. About a year ago a coal operator having determined to sink a shaft to the mammoth vein of white ash coal, at an estimated depth of four hundred and fifty-six feet, commenced operations, and at the depth of fifty-seven feet struck a vein three feet thick of dark-colored material, which was pronounced by experienced miners to be identical with the black band of England and Wales. Subsequent analysis confirmed this, and now the black band of Schuylkill county has risen to great importance.

RIGHT REV. BISHOP STEVENS, who was so seriously injured by the railroad accident near Scranton some weeks since, still remains at Wilkesbarre. He is now able to sit up a portion of each day, and expects to return to Philadelphia in a few weeks.

SET FREE.

A Prison Incident.

I was sitting with an old friend, the governor of a county jail, and we had been talking over his manner of living—one to which he seemed perfectly reconciled.

"Well," he said, "yes, it is a dull life, perhaps; not that I feel it, for, according to my way of thinking, it is not the occupation, but the man's heart which makes him dull. Depend upon it, hands and a thoughtful mind were not given us for nothing, and the more I think the nearer I come to the conclusion that the busy life is the happy one after all. Now here am I, with plenty to take up my time in my duties, and plenty of studies of character within reach shut up all ready for me in the different cells.

"Gloomy place this, you'll say, barred and bolted to keep any friends from getting in unasked; but there, you know what old Milton said about the mind being its own palace, and in itself able to make a heaven of its abode. I'm contented enough, and too busy generally to find fault.

"Yes, you may depend upon it your busy man is the happiest, for I've seen it again and again. The greatest punishment you can inflict upon a man is to shut him up with nothing to do, nothing to employ his time with, nothing to hinder the constant drag, drag of his thoughts pulling him towards the past.

"Not always sorrow and contrition, recollections of drinking-bouts and successful robberies and their profits, debaucheries, and then longings for liberty once more. Of course, now and then we do get a really repented fellow—not one of your cringing, fawning rascals, who turn up their eyes and feel so much better for the chaplain's words, and so carefully learn all his texts, but comparatively honest rogues—men who have been sent here for their term of imprisonment, and who feel the bitterness and shame of their position—men who shudder as the barber's scissors crop their hair, and who soon show in their appearance how their punishment is telling upon them. They don't get fat and sleek, and jump up to make bows when you enter their cells, but hide all their troubles in their hearts, and go about their duties silently and doggedly.

"I had such a man here not long back now—Amos Kidding, in for poaching—and how that poor fellow beat against his cage like a wild fellow! I believe he was not a bad one at heart, but he had got himself mixed up with a poaching gang, and a keeper having been half killed, Amos was taken, and, rightly or wrongly, sent here for six months.

"I can soon pick out what I call the canters, and act accordingly; while where I see a poor fellow taking his confinement to heart, why, knowing how it tells on his health, I try and call for him to brighten him up—setting him at odd jobs about the place, gardening, and so on; while if he knows a trade, one that can be worked at in here, I set him to do something in that way, never letting him stand still for tools or material.

"But this poor fellow was unmanageable; he would work as hard as I liked, and as long as I liked, but the moment he was by himself he was pining again. Setting for his wife and children, and wearing himself away to skin and bone. I did not know what to do with him, and grew quite troubled at last, for I began to be afraid of having a monomaniac on the wardens, telling me that in a fit of the most desparing madness which comes upon men, poor Kidding had made away with himself.

"The summons came at last, but in a different form, for one morning I was sent for at seven o'clock to be told that the bird had beaten down the wires and had escaped.

"Why, how did he manage it?" I exclaimed, angrily.

"Come and see, sir,' said the warden, and I went to the cell where the the prisoner had been locked in the night before at eight o'clock, and then apparently he must have gone to work at once with the old nail at the setting of one of the iron bars in the window till he got it loose, drew out, and then wrenched out first one and then another, leaving a passage big enough to allow his body to pass. The blankets and rug were gone, while a piece of one of the former was hung to one of the bars, evidently having been used to let the prisoner down into the yard below.

"We were not long in reaching the lesser yard, which was about twenty feet beneath his window, and surrounded by all sides by the prison buildings. Here it was evident that he had made his way into the long passage between the work shops, a place covered in for the whole length with iron bars. Here he had dropped down we found where he had leaped up and caught the bars, and evidently by placing his feet against them and forcing, while he held on with his hands, he had worked till the gap was sufficiently for him to force his body through, when he would be able to lower himself into the large yard, where the high wall is, whose top is covered with loose heavy bricks, which are sure to fall if any attempt be made to climb over.

"Not a brick was out of place, though, as far as I could see, till one of the men pointed out where three had fallen, and then, feeling satisfied in my own mind that the prisoner had escaped, I returned to my office, and sent out notices to the police.

"All at once one of the men ran in. 'Found him, sir,' he said.

"How? where? I said. 'Is he in the cell?'

"'No, sir,' said the warder, 'he's a top of the prison.'

"I jumped up, and hurried into the yard, to find one of the men looking up and caught sight of the poor fellow's head from a neighboring house, and given notice to the gatekeeper.

"It was now plain enough that the prisoner had reached the top of the high wall, and then, probably from his bed-clothes, had given a rush to descend, so he had climed from thence by means of a water pipe, right on to the top of the prison, and was now lying concealed in one of the gutters.

"I'm too old and stout to take part in such matters, so I sent up three men to the top of the prison, and then went up one of the buildings to see the capture made. I did not have to wait long before first one head and then another appeared above the trap door, till the three men were upon the roof, which is rather extensive, consisting of high slated ridges, separated by wide lead gutters.

"The noise they made must have aroused the prisoner, for I saw him start up all at once, as if from sleep, and stand facing his pursuers.

"'Of course he'll give up, poor fellow,' I muttered to myself; but I was mistaken, for the next moment I saw him scramble up one side of a ridge and slide down the other, in a way which showed that submission was far from his intention.

"Not to be outdone, the three men separated, and as one followed in the prisoner's steps, the others tried to cut him off right and left.

"'Dirty duty, I fear,' I also much sympathy for the poor fellow, that I should have said, 'let him go.' But all I could do was to gaze horror-stricken at the scene going on about thirty feet from where I stood. The three warders as near enough to touch the prisoner, but he eluded the grasp, and lead his pursuers right to the end of the building, each man, in the excitement of the chase, running fearlessly along the coping of the parapet, or darting by and down the ridges in a way that chilled me with horror, as I thought of a fall full fifty feet into the stone yard below.

"'Good!' I ejaculated at last, for at the second race round the building I saw one of the men drop behind a projection in hiding, and then, as the prisoner came round, the warder leaped up, caught him by the throat, and I thought all was over. But directly after I considered as I saw a deadly struggle going on within a foot of the parapet, and felt that the next moment must see the pair falling headlong to the ground; while it was almost a relief to see them go down heavily into the gutter, and the prisoner leap up and continue his flight, pursued by the other two men, who had lagged behind to cut off their quarry.

"But a new plan was now being adopted by the pursuers, who crawled on hands and knees between the ridges, one going one way, the other another way, while to my astonishment I saw the prisoner stop at the corner where the brick-hardened wall touched the buildings, and let down a rope of knotted blanket, hitherto hidden in the lead gutter, to which it was somehow secured. The next instant the poor fellow was over the wall, and down hand-wards and forwards, and turning round and round as he lowered himself quickly, staring upwards at the men, who now came up and looked over at him.

"'I'm governor of this jail, and I know my duty, but in that moment of peril I could do nothing but look on, for I felt, I may say, that something was going to happen. My hands were wet, the big drops stood upon my brow, while, whilling away, rough and I was with his dilated eyes, I shuddered again, just as the fragile rope parted, and he came down with his back striking the wall and dislodging some of the loose bricks, when I turned away from the window to run down; but not quick enough to avoid hearing the sickening crash of the poor fellow's fall upon the hard flags in the yard.

"The doctor was standing over Ridding when I went into his cell, and then, answering my inquiring look with a slight raising of the eyelids and a shake of the head, he went out and left me with the poor fellow, who smiled as I leant over his bed.

"'Are you much pain?' I said.

"'Only in one place, sir,' he whispered, touching his breast; and then no more was said for a minute or two, when I spoke a few encouraging words.

"'No use, sir, no use,' he murmured. 'Don't be cross with me. I couldn't bear it any longer. I wanted to be with the wife and little ones once more. Tell 'em how it was.'

"The next morning the poor fellow was free—free from prison bonds—earthly bonds—all; and I was so upset with that affair that I sent in my resignation. It was returned to me with a note begging that I would reconsider my determination; and I did. But we have some most heartrending cases at times under our care."

THE question is canvassed in Ohio whether, if Senator Wade becomes acting President by the conviction and removal of Mr. Johnson, there will be a vacancy in the representation of Ohio in the Senate, to be filled by the Legislature. Mr. Vallandigham thinks there will; but the better opinion is that there will not. If Mr. Wade becomes acting President, it will be solely because he is President of the Senate—and he holds that office only as a Senator. If he ceases to be a Senator, he will *ipso facto* cease to be President of the Senate, and cannot therefore be acting President. It seems quite clear that his office as Senator will not be vacated in case of the President's conviction.

PITTSBURGH AND NEWBERN.

Route of the Proposed Railroad--Fertility of the Soil and Wealth in Minerals of the Country through which it is Laid--Facts for Pittsburgh Capitalists.

FLATWOOD, FAYETTE COUNTY, PA., March 27, 1868.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

I see in your paper of March 21, a letter from G. W. Daugherty, showing up to the inhabitants of Western Pennsylvania the utility and great advantage (especially to the city of Pittsburgh) of a direct communication connecting the North and South by means of a railroad leading from Pittsburgh to Newbern, located on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, in Pulaski county, Virginia. Mr. Daugherty is correct when he says the prospect is sufficiently flattering to enlist not only the money of the capitalists, but the enterprise of the manufacturers of Pittsburgh, and I will add all Western Pennsylvania. There is no difficulty in this route. It has a natural grade to Fairmount along the Monongahela river, passing the flourishing towns of Monongahela City, Brownsville, Morgantown, &c.; thence a natural grade of the Tigerts Valley river to the Mingo Flats in Randolph county, passing Pruntytown, Phillippi, Beverly, and Huttonsville; thence, over a table land of five miles to Gatewood's Big Spring; then a water grade of fifteen or twenty miles; then crossing another table land from three to five miles to Stony creek, a tributary of Greenbrier, passing on the route Huntersville, Millpoint, Frankfort, White Sulphur Spring, and Lewisburg, to Palestine; leaving the Greenbrier river, cutting across a corner of Monroe county, tapping the New river at or near Pack's Ferry; passing on the route Union Rocky Point, Grey Sulphur Spring, and Centerville; thence up New river, passing the Saltworks and Plaster Banks, to Newbern.

So far as tunnelling, cutting and filling is concerned it would be an easy undertaking, when compared with the levelling of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad or the Pennsylvania Central, simply because there are comparatively no mountains or table-lands to cross. All that is necessary for me to say about the richness and fertility of the country through which the proposed road would pass is that the entire route from Beverly, in Randolph county, to Newbern, in Pulaski county, is the very best of limestone land, save here and there a narrow branch of freestone. Even the mountains on the East and West of the proposed track have the limestone to near their summit, blue grass being the natural grass of the country.

It would be unnecessary for me to stop here to recount the amazing amount of minerals and agricultural productions of Monongalia, Marion, Taylor and Barbour counties, that would naturally flow to the city of Pittsburgh. Suffice it to say, that the coal, iron, timber, wool, and other products of the above counties, made at the present time, would naturally flow to the city of Pittsburgh. Then, again, in Randolph county, the road would naturally follow the base of the Cheat Mountain, said mountain being from three to four miles to its summit, the top of which is comparatively level, and from ten to fifteen miles broad. This is densely covered with pine, which seldom fails to attract and astonish the traveler of the cedars of Lebanon, far excelling any forest I ever saw for lumber and shingles, equalling if not surpassing even the best yellow pine. The height of this forest I am unable to determine, but I think I would be safe in saying fifty miles, through which the Cheat river flows its dark and colored waters, susceptible of driving any amount of machinery. The forest is at once accessible, having the graded pike from Parkersburg to Stanton passing through it.

Passing thence up the Tiger's Valley river, twenty miles brings us to the Mingo Flats. We then come to another forest, (through which the road would pass for thirty miles,) covered with black walnut, wild cherry, yellow poplar, white ash, and sugar tree, growing in a rich limestone soil. Then comes the beautiful Greenbrier levels sixty miles in length, over which the cattle roam and graze (and I will here say, they are unsurpassed by Hudson county, Illinois, for beef) on which large herds were also raised there in abundance, but during the war they were either killed or appropriated. As a grain growing country it is unsurpassed by any portion of the South. But it is unnecessary to raise grain when you will meet home consumption for the want of an internal improvement. They are compelled to raise something capable of transporting itself to market or seek other. In this vicinity is located the renowned White Sulphur Springs, the Blue Sulphur, the Gray Sulphur, the Green Sulphur, the Sweet and the Old Sweet Sulphur, the healing, the hot, the warm and the alum springs, where the planter can have a medical power or virtue for healing the various diseases incident to the human family that would astonish all who are not acquainted with their healing virtues. Fifty miles above named Springs have accommodated from six to eight thousand persons, and are prepared to accommodate several thousand more at the same time. In 1836 the Hot Springs was sold to Allen T. Caperton and others for one million dollars. And in this vicinity also there are veins of inexhaustible iron ore, not counted by the inch as we count here, but by the rod—veins from fifteen to twenty-five feet all pure in lumps from one to one hundred pounds and upwards.

Within pass on through Monroe county, which possesses all the advantages of Greenbrier in richness of soil; possessing also her portion of minerals and mineral springs, blooded cattle, horses and mules. Thence coming to the New river valley and table land on either side are covered with dense forests, inviting the circular saw and the ironhorse to cut it into shape for market, and its transportation thitherto. Then comes the saltworks, producing a salt unsurpassed in firmness and strength by even the Liverpool works. Next comes the plaster banks, of which I need not speak, for every judicious and thriving farmer knows of its power and virtue as a fertilizer. Taking Lewisburg as the standpoint, (being the county seat of Greenbrier county) for one hundred miles east, west, north and south, are not but three furnaces, and they were used up by the war; one foundry, a small concern; three woolen factories combined having but *nine looms* to do their weaving; not a paper mill, no glass factory, no paper mills, no planing mill, one potter, no broom factory and but limestone land.

Now all that I have said would be but a mere shadow compared with the noontide blaze that would open up from the seven Southern States that would be accessible, if Pittsburgh would reach out another from arm and grasp the Virginia and Tennessee road and run to near Newbern.

JAMES M. ABRAHAM.

Anecdote of Admiral Farragut at Florence.

(Florence (March 1) Correspondence of the London *Times*.)

Before proceeding southward, Admiral Farragut had visited some of the North Italian cities, and has everywhere met with a most flattering reception. On Thursday the City of Genoa entertained him at a banquet in the great room of the Townhall. There was a good deal of speech-making, and the guest of the evening paid some handsome compliments to the audience flag and to the skill of its engineers, while the Syndic coupled Columbus and Garibaldi as natives of that Liguria of which Genoa claims to be the head and the heart, and as both of them forming a link between Italy and America. Farragut evidently had a great pleasure in revisiting the places which he last visited fifty years ago, and of which a strong impression was left upon his then boyish mind and memory. I must tell you a good story which I heard yesterday in his Mediterranean cruises, made at an earlier half a century. In the year 1816, being at Tunis, he was much struck by a ponderous piece of bronze ordnance, cast in Italy in the 15th century, and on which the brecon terminated in a particularly fine bald and bearded head, said to be that of the Apostle Paul. This gun took a firm hold of the midshipman's memory, and fifty years later, when in command of the old Pallas of the Potomac, more commonly known as the Bargello, long a prison, but in which several rooms are now set apart as a museum of antiquities. As Farragut was making the round of the various picturesque court of the building, where some pieces of sculpture and other objects are displayed, he suddenly exclaimed "there's my gun." And sure enough, his gun it was; the very piece he had seen more than fifty years previously, and which he intended going to see again at Tunis. It is a remarkable piece of ordinance, which may have been murderous enough in its day, although now more in its place in a museum than in a battery. Some items upon it, as in relief, show it to have been the work of the Florentine Cosimo Ceni, executed in 1628, under the reign of Ferdinand II., Grand Duke of Etruria. By that Prince it was sent as a present to Venice, and is said, according to the chronicle of the Bargello, to have been taken by the Barbary cruisers in a successful raid executed upon the territory of the Republic. There is a certain amount of intercourse between Italy and Tunis, to which latter country there exists a considerable Italian colony, and a year or two ago it occurred to the Pasha that the gun in question having been cast in Florence would be a suitable present for the monarch who had lately transferred his capital thither. Thus has it come to pass that St. Paul's cannon now lies in the inner court of the Bargello, with a ticket attached to it, declaring it the property of the King, and it is to be feared the Admiral's eye did not much chance of taking it with him on his return to the United States. It may be some consolation to him to know that the guardians of the gate and galleries of the old Guelph Palace are perfectly acquainted with the circumstances of his first acquaintance with and constant affection for it, and that the handsome piece of bronze, with its magnificent bearded head, is likely to become traditional as "the Admiral's gun."

AFTER all the skill, science and cost of building the capitol at Washington, it turns out that the ventilation of the Senate chamber is so defective that, when it is crowded, as it is daily now, the air becomes positively dangerous, especially in the gallery. It is one of the wonderful things in this world that, in a building like this, where no restraint has been placed on expense, and where, as it was supposed, the very best order of ability was employed, there should be the east ground for this complaint.

STATE NEWS.

HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., April 2, 1868.

SENATE.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Shoemaker, of Luzerne, incorporating the Allegheny Boom and Lumber Company.

On motion of Mr. White, of Indiana, the Free Railroad Bill was amended so as to make the time for commencement two years, and for completion five years, and capital stock per mile nine thousand dollars instead of ten thousand. The bill passed finally.

Bills Passed Finally.

Incorporating the Trustees of Allegheny Theological Seminary of the United Presbyterian Church.

Authorizing the appointment of two magistrates in the boroughs south of the Monongahela and Ohio rivers, Allegheny county, to hear and determine cases of drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

Granting pension to William Diehl, a soldier of 1812.

Repealing an act establishing a law library in Butler county.

Making a writ of error now returnable to the Western District of the Supreme Court returnable to the Middle District, being the Johnstown accident case as it come from the House.

House bill empowering Margaret B. Fullerton, guardian of the children of Samuel Fullerton, of Freeport, deceased, to sell real estate of said children in Freeport.

Supplement for Beaver County Bank and Safe Deposit Association; authorizing change of name and location, and increasing capital stock.

House bill repealing act establishing a ferry over the Monongahela at Elizabeth, approved April 10th, 1867.

Incorporating Allegheny and Tionest a Boom and Lumber Manufacturing Company.

House bill authorizing School Directors of Saint Clair township, Westmoreland, to borrow money for building purposes.

House bill for a bridge over the Ohio river from West Pittsburgh and Temperanceville to Allegheny City.

Incorporating the Milford Mining and Manufacturing Company.

Prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drinks in Findley township, Allegheny county.

Incorporating the Fiscal Agency and Improvement Company of Pennsylvania, which was introduced by Mr. Ertrett.

Repealing the act prohibiting liquor licenses in the borough of Mount Pleasant, Washington county.

House bill providing for the sale of franchises of turnpike companies in Allegheny county to pay indebtedness. Adjourned.

The Appropriation Bill.

EVENING SESSION.—The appropriation bill was reported from the Finance Committee with reductions amounting to two hundred and twenty-seven thousand dollars, and the report was accepted. The bill went to the committee amounted to $4,132,000. It is now $3,905,000. The common school appropriation was reduced from $400,000 to $400,000; the soldiers' orphans' from $450,000 to $400,000; the Harrisburg Home for Friendless from $15,000 to $10,000 to $5,000. The following local charities were cut out entirely: West Philadelphia Home for Colored Children, Wills Hospital, Jewish Hospital, Pittsburgh; Home for Little Wanderers; Sisters of Charity of Erie; Homes for Friendless in Lancaster, Allegheny City, Wilkesbarre, Harrisburg and Scottsburg; West Philadelphia Children's Home; Merchants' Orphan Asylum of Philadelphia; St. Joseph's Asylum; St. Mary's Hospital, St. Paul's Orphan Asylum of Pittsburgh, Female Widows' Asylum, Female Orphans' Home, Home of Shepherd of the Lamb, and German Hospital of Philadelphia—amounting in the aggregate to $575,000. The Polytechnic College appropriation of $10,000 was cut down to $5,000. The Schools of Design were reduced from $7,000 to $5,000. The salaries of Supreme Judges were reduced from $7,500 to $6,000 each. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

**Bills

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1868.

WILL IMPEACHMENT CARRY.

If we were to accept the Democratic presses and their Washington letter writers as good authority, we should have no hesitation in coming to the conclusion that the Managers had entirely failed to make out their case, and that impeachment was sure to fail. A more complete failure, says one, was never witnessed, and the Republicans are overwhelmed with disconfidence. When the defense presents their side of the case, the impeachers will have nothing to stand on, says another. Only by the severest party drill, say they all, will at least a dozen Senators be kept up to the work and induced to consent to any other verdict than that of acquittal. In claiming a chance for the President, his friends concede that the Republican Senators thus far have not been animated by the spirit of partizanship, and are not likely to be in making up their final verdict. This is what has been claimed for them by their friends from the first: but freedom from bias and strict regard for the principle of justice and the facts, by no means contemplate the acquittal of the President as the only verdict possible. Were the Republican Senators in this matter the banded partizans the Democrats are, the trial would be a mockery. The President was promised a fair trial, and he is having one, and solely because the Republican Senators, acting as impartial judges, accorded it to him. Of course it is as impossible to say in advance what will be the finding of this court, so far as the majority are concerned, as any other, except as can be inferred from the testimony. But the President's friends do not hesitate to prejudge the case; and it is to be observed that from the beginning no sort of doubt has been entertained what will be the verdict of the Democratic Senators. Seven Republicans voting with them, it has been steadily claimed, will save the President. Nor are they, in setting up a claim to these seven, consistent in attributing to that number the motives that will actuate them. At one time they claim them because a case has not been made out; at another because certain Republicans not liking Mr. WADE prefer to see no change in the White House. Of course, human nature in a Senator is the same as in other men, but in the absence of proof that a single Republican member of the Senate will be influenced by love for this man or hate for that, the idea should be dismissed at once.

All the information that reaches us on the subject, leads us to believe that impeachment will carry, and that the Republicans will be nearly unanimous for such a verdict—not as a party measure, however, but because the law, justice and policy will require it. We are aware that the names of certain Republican Senators are freely circulated as likely to go for acquittal; but in regard to nearly every one of them we have reason to believe that this is done without warrant.

COLOR vs. INTELLIGENCE.

Michigan in voting by an overwhelming majority against the new constitution, has declared against negro suffrage. We might proceed to denounce the people of Michigan, heavily Republican as the majority, on a direct vote, usually is there, for their inconsistency; but that would be quarrelling with mankind and its prejudices as we find them everywhere. The hands which have cast these anti-negro suffrage ballots are the same which cast the ballots that have held Michigan in such steady support of Congress and negro suffrage in the rebellious States. The people of that State do not choose to permit the negro to vote there, though they have affirmed and repeated the affirmation that negro suffrage in the rebellious States is not only right but necessary to loyal government in those States. And so, so long as men's prejudices remain, will be the verdict in nine cases out of ten. When men have conquered their prejudices they will perceive that color neither qualifies nor disqualifies a man concerning suffrage. And the sooner the question is changed, so that prejudice will not usurp reason, and intelligent suffrage becomes the watchword, the sooner will a reasonable conclusion be reached. Neither the word white nor the word black has anything to do with the proper definition of an elector. Has he the requisite intelligence and character? is the only question to be asked and answered; and it can be as readily answered as whether a man is white or black. Fitness attaches to the mind and character, but no more to the color of the skin than the color of the hair. If you decide that no negro shall vote, do you do so because of his skin, merely, or because a dark skin is evidence of the want of capacity? If the former, the test is absurd and will not stand a moment. If the latter, then many a so-called black man will be a good voter, and many a so-called white man will be counted out. The test of intelligence incorporated in the Michigan Constitution, we doubt not would have carried. The first real objection to such a test has not been raised, only to the practicability of applying it. But on examination that objection will vanish. This test of color opens all the sluices of ignorance and crime on the ballot box, floating into the offices, high and low, congenial characters. Michigan has done an inconsistent and an unreasonable thing, just as will other States under similar circumstances do, because the question was put in a form to rouse all the prejudices of generations, and give to them the determining of the verdict. Let the question embody the principle of equal suffrage, based on intelligence, and Michigan and those other States which, like her, will reject negro suffrage, squarely put, will promptly reverse it.

THE election in Connecticut on Monday resulted in the choice of a Democratic Governor and a Republican Legislature, which carries with it a Republican United States Senator, in the place of DIXON, who JOHNSON-ized. Because they did not lose everything the Democrats feign to be jubilant. The State was theirs before, and because they didn't lose it entirely, they rejoice as though they had won a victory. The election of ENGLISH Governor, by some fifteen hundred, even with the slight gain of five hundred over last year, considering the importations from New York, and the rate at which the naturalization mill ground out Democratic voters—the Republicans meanwhile winning the more substantial victory in carrying the Legislature—furnishes about as slender reasons for rejoicing as a party ever made a fuss over. The Republicans of Connecticut will go into the Presidential campaign with at least an even chance. The claim put forth that the President has been sustained, and impeachment condemned, has no foundation in fact. Whatever bearing the result has on the question of impeachment, is directly the reverse of this, in the fact that a Republican United States Senator, to sit in the body before whom the President is being tried, will be chosen to succeed a Senator in whom he has a fast friend. In this respect, therefore, the result is a verdict against the President and in favor of impeachment.

THOSE who have followed the impeachment trial must have been struck with the steadiness with which the Democrats vote together, as a party, on every question; while the Republicans, discarding party considerations, have on all occasions voted according to the merits of the question presented. Only once or twice have the Republican Senators voted together. On almost every question from three to nine of them have voted with the President's friends; and party considerations have, apparently, had as little influence with them as with the members of any court that ever assembled. The Managers have been more than once defeated, and the points raised by the President's counsel sustained, and on one occasion, at least, on a matter of great importance. Not the shadow of unfairness or the slightest trace of bias has been manifested by the Republican Senators; but, on the contrary, the Democrats have voted solid on every question no matter what it was, as partizans. We perceive that on these facts the friends of the President are disposed to build hopes of acquittal. They construe these divisions among the Republicans into a probable disagreement in making up their verdict—and the names of certain Senators are given as almost or quite certain to vote with the Democrats for acquittal. In this we believe they reckon not wisely. The case against the President has been clearly made out; and on the testimony, which cannot be invalidated, already in, no intelligent jury would hesitate to convict.

THE vote on Mr. GLADSTONE'S resolutions withdrawing endowment from the English Protestant Church in Ireland—which on all hands is regarded as a startling leap in the direction of great changes—will probably be followed by the dissolution of Parliament. This will throw back on the people this and all the budget of questions—reformatory and revolutionary—which the Liberals are supposed to have in store. The Tory view of the question is plainly indicated by the remark of the London *Herald*, that "to rob the church is generally the first step of every revolution." The measure is referred to bitterly as "confiscation"—the penalty for the ascendancy of the "party of progress," and only the beginning of the "reforms" which are in store for the realm. "The Irish Church," continues the *Herald*, "will be but a small morsel toward satisfying the noble rage for confiscation which at present possesses the Liberal philosophers." It is plain that the excitement which has characterized English politics for some time past is not going to die out, but will be greatly increased by the failure of the new Ministry on the church question. The resolutions of Mr. GLADSTONE, as adopted, are as follows:

1. That in the opinion of this House it is necessary that the Irish Church Establishment, as now existing, cease to exist as an establishment; due regard being had to all personal interest and to all individual rights of property.

2. That, subject to the foregoing considerations, it is expedient to prevent the creation of new personal interests by the exercise of any public patronage, and to confine the operations of Parliament to local commissioners of Ireland the objects of immediate necessity or involving individual rights, pending the final decision of Parliament.

3. That a humble address be presented to her Majesty, humbly praying that, with a view to the objects aforesaid, her Majesty would be graciously pleased to place at the disposal of Parliament her interest in the temporalities of the archbishoprics, bishoprics, and other ecclesiastical dignities, and benefices in Ireland, and in the custody thereof.

IT turns out, as we supposed it would, that the Democrats saved themselves from total defeat in Connecticut by swelling their vote in the cities. How they did it, is not a difficult question to answer. If they had needed an indefinite number of voters beyond what they shipped from New York, the supply in that city is known to be able to stand the draft. In the rural districts, where the ballot-box is kept comparatively pure, the Republican strength, as a general thing, not only kept up, but had a healthy growth. As a consequence, the Republican majority in the Legislature, which was only eleven last year, has been increased to nearly fifty, and a thorough Republican insured in the place of the JOHNSON-ized DIXON. GRANT will carry the State high and dry.

THE name of Secretary STANTON having been suggested for the post of Secretary of the Treasury, in case impeachment succeeds, it is reported that he has signified that under no circumstances will he accept it. Mr. WADE'S Cabinet—like chickens generally before they are hatched—begins to be the object of interest. HORACE GREELEY for the Postoffice is among the probabilities. Mr. SPAULDING, of Buffalo, and FREEMAN CLARK, of Rochester, New York, and Senator MORGAN are considerably talked about for the Treasury. Should WADE go in, his Cabinet would in some sort be GRANT'S, and it is not unlikely that it would be made up in view of the fitness of things in this respect.

THE NEW YORK *Commercial Advertiser*, (Mr. WEED'S paper), intimates that even if impeachment succeeds the JOHNSON Cabinet will not resign, "so that when Senator WADE becomes 'acting' President he has but two Cabinet Ministers to appoint, viz: an Attorney General to fill a vacancy, and a Secretary of the Interior, in place of Mr. BROWNING, who was appointed by 'acting' President JOHNSON." Mr. WEED remarks, therefore, that "before the Radicals can get possession of the Treasury and the other Departments, they must repeal the Tenure of Office Law." Mr. WEED was in Washington recently in conference with Secretaries SEWARD and MCCULLOCH. Does he speak by the card?

THE Republicans of Connecticut reached for United States Senator DIXON, who proved false to them and went over to JOHNSON. And herein is the real significance of the result. Last year the Republicans had eleven majority on joint ballot. That would have been enough this time, but to make the thing sure, and give Mr. DIXON a hint he will understand, the Republicans took something like fifty majority on joint ballot!

IT would seem that the Supreme Court of the United States has the misfortune to disagree with those of our Common Pleas Judges who think a colored man should not practice law, for we learn from Washington that, on the 6th instant, a motion was made to admit GEORGE B. VASHON to practice in that Court and immediately granted, whereupon Mr. VASHON, with others, took the oath.

THE mischievous assertion by the New York *Tribune* that General Grant has declared that "impeachment was necessary to the peace of the country and ought to be accomplished," is authoritatively denied. The impropriety of such an expressive opinion, by General Grant, pending the trial, will occur to every one. Therefore we are not surprised to hear that "whatever may be his private opinion on this subject, and doubtless he entertains opinions as clearly as any one, the country may rest assured that he has not made any such announcement nor will he make any announcement of any kind on this subject, so long as the present official relations which he bears to the President exist. The gross impropriety of such an announcement, especially as an example for the army, ought to be as apparent to the country as it is to General Grant."

CAPITALISTS from Western cities are turning their attention to real estate in New Orleans, with reference to the erection of warehouses, elevators, and commercial facilities generally. This, we are assured, is due to the fact that shipments of grain made of late to Europe, by way of the Mississippi, have proved very profitable, and capitalists are evidently preparing greatly to enlarge their operations by this route. "If the Northwest," says a correspondent, "shall once become convinced that the Pacific trade can be intercepted at Panama and distributed by way of the Mississippi and the cities of the West, New York will find a formidable competitor for that trade of which she now enjoys a monopoly."

THE New York *Sun*, referring to the escape of the notorious Col. St. Leger Grenfell from the Dry Tortugas, says he will probably "assume his wild and reckless career in some other part of the world." The probabilities, as we are led to believe from a private letter written the next day after his escape, are quite the reverse. Grenfell, with three or four others, escaped at night, in an open boat, which it was generally believed must have swamped. The next morning a steamer went in search, but nothing was seen or heard of the fugitives.

IN the principal Eastern cities a revival of trade is spoken of as close at hand. A New York letter says: "The merchants down town speak cheerfully of trade prospects for the current week, if the weather will only keep steady. The number of country buyers is steadily on the increase, and letters from nearly all quarters speak of others as coming, so that there is reason to believe that the spring business, though late, will be an average one, to say the least of it, after all."

THE three great rival railroad lines to the East, from this city, are entering upon a spirited competition for the great passenger trade that is anticipated during the present year. The Michigan Central, Michigan Southern, and Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroads have reduced their fares to $20 to New York.—*Chicago Journal.*

Are passengers or freight, cast or west, from Pittsburgh, carried cheaper now than before this competition commenced?

THE Chicago *Republican* says the Nicolson pavement in that city, if well laid on a well settled road, is not excelled by anything tried there. In Boston it has not done so well.

CROP CORRESPONDENCE.

CLARION COUNTY.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

WATTERSON'S FERRY, PA., March 31, 1868.

The crops in this part of Clarion county, Pa., look well, and are very promising for a bountiful harvest. The snow last winter was very beneficial to the fall grain. I am sorry to say the peach crop in this vicinity will be almost a total failure the present season, in consequence of the sleet a few weeks ago. The choice fruit are all killed. A live bud may be found here and there on the common seedling varieties. The apples and cherries are safe yet.

Yours, truly, R. W.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

CLARION COUNTY, March 31, 1868.

The writer has taken some pains, both by examination and inquiry, to ascertain the condition of the buds and the prospect of the fruit crop in this county, and the result is: Peaches all killed: plums and cherries badly injured, and generally killed; apples and pears not hurt, but a very poor appearance of blossoms. Very little rain for two weeks. The roads are dry and becoming dusty. Weather clear and cool. The fall grain came out from under the snow in excellent condition—in fact, precisely as it was when the snow fell on it. It is yet looking well, but a continuance of the dry and cool weather will soon tell upon it injuriously. The western portion of this county is greatly benefitted by the extension of the Allegheny Valley Railroad to Oil City. The fair crops of wheat last season has stimulated enterprise among our farmers. Hundreds are actively engaged in burning lime and putting it on their land at this time. Perhaps ten times as much will be covered as in any former season. Limestone is found in many parts of the county and stone coal in nearly every hill. Our winters are more uniform than in Pittsburgh, and our summers are singularly beautiful, pleasant and healthy. Improved farms can be bought for from ten to thirty dollars per acre. Some of our citizens who have gone West, after shaking and shivering a year or two with the ague and dyspepsia, have come back, satisfied that abundance of pork and corn don't amount to much without the appetite and health to enjoy it. Many German farmers have settled among us, and nearly all have become independent and some wealthy. They are industrious, thrifty and prosperous, and we are glad to see them settle in our county, and should welcome as many more. In addition to lime and coal we have iron ore, fire clay, salt, and a little timber left. And we expect a railroad through the heart of the county in a reasonable time. Several are talked of, but all may prove failures. On this subject I may furnish you further information hereafter. FARMER.

CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PA.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

CURWENSVILLE, PA., April 4, 1868.

The grain never looked better in this county. The snow fell deep, lay on the ground until the 15th of March and went off gently. The fruit appears favorable so far, and I think we will have a good harvest and plenty of fruit.

B. H.

JEFFERSON COUNTY, OHIO.

Special Correspondence Pittsburgh Commercial.

PORT HOMER, April 4, 1868

The wheat in this locality looks fine—better than for many years. The peaches are generally killed, except along the river bank. Other fruit appears to be doing well and bids fair for good crops. Plowing, planting and sowing is the order of the day. Potatoes, oats and early vegetables are already in the ground and more being put in every day. We had a snow storm last night, and ice and snow cover the trees and ground.

THE PROSPECT IN THE WEST.

Within the past few days we have seen and conversed with farmers and others conversant with the condition of the wheat in Indiana, Jersey, Greene and Macoupin counties, embracing, probably, the best wheat section in the State, and their unanimous testimony is to the splendid prospect for a full crop of this great staple.—*Alton Telegraph.*

MERCER COUNTY, PA.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

CLARK, Mercer Co., Pa., April 6, 1868.

The prospects for grain and fruit are very flattering indeed. The winter and spring was very favorable. If no intervening providence, we may look for such a harvest as will make all rejoice and be glad. S. C. K.

FRUIT IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

We extract the following from a private letter dated Jonesboro, Union county, Southern Illinois, April 5: "I think fully seventy-five per cent. of the entire fruit crop of Southern Illinois has been killed during the last two nights by frost. Peaches are safe, and the strawberry blossoms that were open are killed, and I think about one-fourth of them are opened. There is prospect of more frost to-night."

BEAVER COUNTY, PA.

The Beaver *Argus* says: During our term of court we conversed with quite a number of our country acquaintances in relation to the winter grain, and with scarcely an exception, they represented the wheat and the rye to be looking healthy, and the prospect of a fine crop very flattering. The deep snow of the winter not only protected it from freezing, but kept the ground in a condition to cause the grain to grow nearly the whole season. If, therefore, no mishap befalls it in the future, we may look for flour to 'tumble down' in the course of a few months."

The Vice Presidency.

The attitude of the West and the way it will probably vote in Convention on the Vice Presidency, is set forth in the following emphatic manner by the Chicago *Tribune*:

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STATE NEWS.

The Child's League of Reading has fitted up a handsome reading room, which is largely patronized by the Republicans of the city.

A large furnace is being built in Berks county by Messrs. Bloster, Edward and William Clymer.

The following figures show the condition of the Methodist Episcopal denomination in Philadelphia: Fifty churches, 19,872 members, 2,238 probationers, 2,2'8 baptisms during the past year; value of church property, $1,122,300; contributions during the past year, $257,500.

A colony, consisting of thirty or forty persons, left Oakville, Cumberland county, last week, with a view to settling in Holt county, Missouri. Other settling colonies have recently sent out colonists to the West.

Frank Wittmeyer, a young man who attended several meetings at Sinking Springs, Berks county, on Thursday, drank very deeply, until about twelve o'clock at night, when he fell over dead. His death was caused by excessive drinking, an improved style of committing suicide.

Governor Geary has just made the following appointments: Notaries Public—Thomas M. Blair and John A. Wilson at Pittsburgh; Charles B. Hurst at Rochester; Alexander Montgomery, Johnstown; W. E. Frisbie, Mauch Chunk; C. M. Wood, Meadville. Justices of the Peace—Campbell Corry, Erie county; John J. Long, Blairsville, Indiana county; Edward Ecke, Allentown, Lehigh county; Josiah W. Eno, Plymouth, Luzerne county; Jacob Loutz, Stroudsburg, Monroe county; Lafayette Mills, Lancaster; G. Lee, Philadelphia; Jones Smith, Columbus, Warren county; W. Wilson, Uniontown, Westmoreland county; John A. Wilson, York.

There are four hundred and forty-eight employees of the railroad shops at Scranton on a strike. The strikers are gradually returning to their work.

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A man named C. C. Barnett recently committed suicide in Harmony township, near West Hickory, Venango county, by taking strychnine. He leaves a wife and family in the State of New York. The unfortunate man had been in a desponding state of mind for some time past. No cause is assigned for the rash act.

The Scranton *Republican* urges the passage of an act imposing upon corporations and individuals engaged in mining anthracite coal a specific tax upon every ton mined, to be paid to the State, which is to be in addition to all now imposed or levied in the mines. It is urged that the immense profits of the coal trade, and the fortunate man had been in a desponding state of mind for some time past. No cause is assigned for the rash act.

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CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PA.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

CURWENSVILLE, PA., April 4, 1868.

The grain never looked better in this county. The snow fell deep, lay on the ground until the 15th of March and went off gently. The fruit appears favorable so far, and I think we will have a good harvest and plenty of fruit.

B. H.

JEFFERSON COUNTY, OHIO.

Special Correspondence Pittsburgh Commercial.

PORT HOMER, April 4, 1868

The wheat in this locality looks fine—better than for many years. The peaches are generally killed, except along the river bank. Other fruit appears to be doing well and bids fair for good crops. Plowing, planting and sowing is the order of the day. Potatoes, oats and early vegetables are already in the ground and more being put in every day. We had a snow storm last night, and ice and snow cover the trees and ground.

THE PROSPECT IN THE WEST.

Within the past few days we have seen and conversed with farmers and others conversant with the condition of the wheat in Indiana, Jersey, Greene and Macoupin counties, embracing, probably, the best wheat section in the State, and their unanimous testimony is to the splendid prospect for a full crop of this great staple.—*Alton Telegraph.*

MERCER COUNTY, PA.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

CLARK, Mercer Co., Pa., April 6, 1868.

The prospects for grain and fruit are very flattering indeed. The winter and spring was very favorable. If no intervening providence, we may look for such a harvest as will make all rejoice and be glad. S. C. K.

FRUIT IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

We extract the following from a private letter dated Jonesboro, Union county, Southern Illinois, April 5: "I think fully seventy-five per cent. of the entire fruit crop of Southern Illinois has been killed during the last two nights by frost. Peaches are safe, and the strawberry blossoms that were open are killed, and I think about one-fourth of them are opened. There is prospect of more frost to-night."

BEAVER COUNTY, PA.

The Beaver *Argus* says: During our term of court we conversed with quite a number of our country acquaintances in relation to the winter grain, and with scarcely an exception, they represented the wheat and the rye to be looking healthy, and the prospect of a fine crop very flattering. The deep snow of the winter not only protected it from freezing, but kept the ground in a condition to cause the grain to grow nearly the whole season. If, therefore, no mishap befalls it in the future, we may look for flour to 'tumble down' in the course of a few months."

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REGISTRY LAW.

Act Relating to Elections in Pennsylvania, Approved April 4, 1868.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by authority of the same.* That from and after the passage of this act, it shall be the duty of the several assessors within this Commonwealth, in receiving their transcripts from the County Commissioners, to make out a list of the names, in alphabetical order of the white freemen above twenty-one years of age, whom they shall know, or who shall make it appear to their satisfaction, by the oath of any credible witness, that they have resided within the respective townships, boroughs, and wards of the city or district for which the said freeman is or is not a householder, and, if he is, the number of the house in which he lives, in case the same are numbered, in the said street, alley or court in which situated, and, if in a town which has not been numbered, the name of the street, alley or court on which said house fronts; also the occupation of the party, and, where he is not a householder, the occupation, place of nourishing and with whom, and, if working for another, the name of the employer; and the said list shall be styled the word "voters" and where said party claims to vote by reason of naturalization, he shall exhibit his certificate thereof to the assessor, unless he shall have voted in the township, borough, ward or district at the previous election after the passage of this act, and in all cases where the name shall be marked with the letter S, where the party last mentioned declared his intention to become a citizen, and designs to be naturalized before the next election, the name shall be marked D; where the claim is to vote by reason of being between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-two as provided by law, the word "age" shall be entered; and if the party has removed into the election district to reside therein the last general election, the letter R shall be placed opposite the name; and in all of the cases enumerated a tax shall forthwith be assessed against the party so failing; in order to carry this law into effect for the present year, it shall be the duty of the county commissioners of the respective counties of this Commonwealth, within sixty days after the passage of this act, to furnish the assessors of the several townships and wards of the city or district with a full list of the names of all persons returned by the assessors as having been assessed in this year, which list shall be made out and placed in the hands of the respective assessors, who shall proceed to call at the house of the first of September to ascertain the qualifications of the persons so named, and their claims to vote as before provided in this section, and to enter the names, also, all of the parties enjoined by this act, and forthwith make the same out in duplicate, and deliver the boards as hereinafter directed: *Provided*, That the names of all persons, who were duly registered and published in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven, in October, shall, without further proof or publication, be considered as duly registered, and entitled to vote at the general election in November, but the right to vote is passed on as prescribed in the fourth section of this act.

SEC. 2. That when the listing completed and the assessments made as aforesaid, the same shall forthwith be returned to the county commissioners, who shall cause duplicate copies of said lists, with the corrections and explanations required to be noted as aforesaid, to be made out, one of which shall be placed in the hands of the assessor, who shall, prior to the first day of October next, cause notice to be put one copy thereof on the door of the house where the inhabitants of the district usually meet to vote, as he shall, and retain the other in his possession for the inspector, free of charge, or any person residing within the district, who shall apply for the same, and cause duplicate copies of said lists, with the corrections and explanations required to be noted as aforesaid, to be made out and delivered to the inspectors of the several districts, at least five days previous to the general election, of which meeting and delivery he shall give due public notice by written notices set up in three of the most public places in their respective wards in the city, borough or district, at least ten days before the election. *And provided further*, That where any ward in city, borough or ward in a borough shall contain more than two election districts, the judges and inspectors of elections shall meet the commissioners of such ward in a city, borough, ward in a borough or township, at such time and place as the said commissioners shall give due public notice of, for the purpose of receiving the lists of voters of the respective districts in such ward in a city, borough or township, and the boundaries of the districts shall be established by the said commissioners, and they shall divide into two or more election districts, it shall be the duty of the assessor to assess each voter in the district in which he resides, and to enter the names in separate duplicate lists to the election officers in each district, and the said lists shall be styled lists of inspectors, judges and assessor, in addition to the matters hereinbefore required to be noted again at the place fixed on by the third section of this act on the Thursday next preceding any general election, he shall exhibit his lists of voters, and shall remain in session until 6 P. M., for the purpose of hearing objections that may be made to any name presented to him by any person or persons claiming to be entitled to vote, and whose name may be omitted from the list, and he shall have the power to strike off the name of any person not entitled to vote, and to place on the list the name of any person entitled to vote in the district in which he or they claim to be entitled to vote; and for the purpose of ascertaining the facts touching the right of persons to vote, he may administer such oaths and affirmations as may be necessary, and shall enter on the list the name of every person whose name he may place thereon, and shall mark opposite the name the word "added," and shall, immediately after the election is over, return the said lists to the commissioners of the county, stating under oath that they contain a true statement of all the names added by him, and the reasons for adding the same, and the commissioners shall make due proof in the manner now prescribed by the election laws of this State, of the persons in said district, and like proof shall be made in advance by those applying for registry whose names are not entered on the list furnished to the assessor, and the assessor shall then be the duty of the assessor forthwith to enter the names of the persons thus required by law, on the proof being made to the satisfaction of the election board: If not otherwise entitled to vote in the district by the last preceding election, it shall be the duty of the assessor to enter the name of any person who shall make proof to the satisfaction of the election board that he resided in the district at the last preceding election, although his name was not entered on the list of voters, and the assessor shall enter the name of such person on the list of voters, and the election board shall receive the vote of such person, and the assessor shall enter the name of such person on the list of voters, and the election board shall receive the vote of such person, and the assessor shall enter the name of such person on the list of voters, and the election board shall receive the vote of such person, and the assessor shall enter the name of such person on the list of voters, and the election board shall receive the vote of such person, and the assessor shall enter the name of such person on the list of voters, and the election board shall receive the vote of such person, and the assessor shall enter the name of such person on the list of voters, and the election board shall receive the vote of such person, and the assessor shall enter the name of such person on the list of voters, and the election board shall receive the vote of such person, and the assessor shall enter the name of such person on the list of voters, and the election board shall receive the vote of

Weekly Commercial.

The White and Black Population of the Southern States.

There are but two States in the South where the negro population outnumbers the white—the States of South Carolina and Mississippi. In the other eight reconstructing States the whites are so largely in the majority that if they are outvoted it will be either because they refuse to register, or because more are disfranchised than Congress intended. The following table gives estimates of population and voters for 1867, based on the census of 1860, with proper allowance for natural increase and for the losses during the war:

State.	Male Citizens—Whites.	Male Citizens—Negroes.	Voters—Whites.	Voters—Negroes.
Alabama	248,109	164,259	81,682	54,755
Arkansas	109,712	31,183	60,371	15,063
Florida	27,060	28,862	12,339	7,941
Georgia	270,941	178,175	99,344	57,715
Louisiana	205,748	164,703	47,557	48,832
Mississippi	187,048	164,765	55,982	58,292
North Carolina	331,759	115,671	96,634	36,918
South Carolina	134,529	190,839	43,840	59,279
Texas	200,000	140,000	100,000	70,000
Virginia	316,761	168,128	105,583	66,044
Total	2,138,369	1,320,511	666,974	412,187

If all were registered, the white majorities would be as follows: In Alabama, 26,278; Arkansas, 57,519; Florida, 4,888; Georgia, 32,-599; Louisiana, 24,656; South Carolina, 44,506; Texas, 45,000; Virginia, 39,540. The black majorities would be in Mississippi, 2,270; South Carolina, 6,459. If, in the eight States where the whites are dominant, disfranchisement is limited to the condition of the Reconstruction bills, the white majorities cannot be entirely wiped out, except, possibly, in Florida.

Washington Tattles and Gossip.

CONFIDENCE OF THE MANAGERS.

The Managers on the part of the House and their friends are just as confident of their ability to convict the President, as he and his counsel are of an acquittal. Of course, they take an entirely different view of the character and weight of the testimony they have produced and intend producing.

They think they have clearly proved a conspiracy between the President and Gen. Thomas to violate the laws and obtain possession, by force, if necessary, of the War Office. They are clearly of opinion that this is established beyond contradiction, the fact that the President has been guilty of a premeditated violation of the Tenure-of-Office act.

"A. J." HAS NOT THE LEAST FEARS.

The President himself has no idea of his being convicted on the present impeachment charges. In an interview with a gentleman last evening he said he never had the least fears of being convicted. As the trial has progressed he has become more assured of his final and complete acquittal.

NOT SATISFIED.

Mr. Sumner is not content with the vote of the Senate to deprive the Chief Justice of a vote, and it is said that he is preparing an elaborate argument, showing that in accordance with the precedents the presiding officer at a trial of an impeachment has no right to vote.

THE VIEWS OF SENATORS

On all these questions cannot, from the peculiar nature of their positions, be obtained. There is considerable surmise as to how certain Senators will vote on the question as to qualify or not qualify, but in conversation they preserve a studied silence on the whole question of impeachment, and everything connected with it; it may be said that the statements published from time to time as to the manner in which certain Senators will vote or the questions are pure speculations. It may be further stated that the votes of Senators on the questions coming before them during the progress of the trial, have no significance as regards their vote on the final question as to the President's guilt or innocence.

A CURIOUS DEVELOPMENT.

Political circles were considerable exercised to-day over the fact transpiring that the five column editorial article which appeared in the *National Intelligencer* on Thursday, proving neither Wade nor Colfax legally entitled to the Presidential chair if impeachment was successful, was presented to the editors of the *Intelligencer* for publication, by Chief Justice Chase's private secretary. At the time the article appeared it was understood the President's counsel. The conclusion is drawn that the article in question was prepared, not by the private secretary, but by the chief Justice himself. Every effort was made to keep the authorship or whence it originated a secret, but this was unsuccessful, as the fact leaked out to-day.

THE LAST SHOT.

The managers are in possession of and will introduce as evidence, Johnson's letter to the Cabinet soon after the assassination, requesting and authorizing them to remain in charge of their departments. This will supply the missing link in the chain of evidence.

SPEECHES TO BE MADE.

There is some contest among the managers about who shall make speeches. All wish to say something, and it is said Mr. Stevens insists on making an argument. Manager Bingham is already vigorously at work on his speech, devoting himself at present to summing up of evidence and law, and to making a general review of the case. He will thus have only to answer in detail the points made by the counsel. To make his argument complete Mr. Bingham works by dictation to an amanuensis. Butler's whole speech was written out in the same way.

Florida Pomology.

A writer in a Southern agricultural paper discourses thus sensibly about the pros and cons of this fascinating branch of industry:

South of the thirtieth parallel of latitude, there is a perpetual trade wind, and the rainy summer of the islands of Cuba, Hayti and Jamaica; an alternate land and sea breeze; a dry and a wet season and a great uniformity of temperature throughout the year. The great Gulf stream which flows along its Southern and Eastern shores bring to it the steady warmth of equatorial seas. Now, in such a climate, the apple, the pear, the cherry and many other fruits of Georgia and more northern States can never flourish. Seedling native peaches succeed tolerably well as far south as the twenty ninth parallel of latitude. Budded or grafted trees, especially from Carolina and Georgia nurseries, are a failure. Even in the northern section of the State there are localities where they do well, but, generally, it often fails on the sea coast; if matured, the fruit is below the medium size. I have observed that where the Peach succeeds, the Orange, or its more delicate congeners, are more liable to be cut down by frosts. On the other hand, the Fig flourish in great perfection in the northern or middle portions of the peninsula, but south of the twenty-seventh degree of latitude they give place to the Cocoa Nut and Banana, the Pine Apple, and the most delicate fruits of the tropics. All the Citron tribe around from the thirtieth parallel south, and with only indifferent cultivation, in the highest state of perfection. Wild Orange groves, the sour and the bitter sweet, and some of them miles in extent, are found in the fertile hammock, particularly where shell or marl is present. The original stock was brought to the country by the early Spanish explorers and conquerors. The Portuguese narrator, himself a companion of De Soto, says: "The fruits brought from Spain are the orange and the fig." These wild groves are an inexhaustible nursery, from whence stocks are obtained for building the sweet orange, the lemon, the grape fruit, and the shaddock. If the stock is three inches in diameter, carefully dug out, and as many roots undisturbed as possible—the stock cut off about four or five feet from the ground, and then transplanted with due regard to the freedom of the roots in a new soil, and budded the same season, and the third year will produce fruit. After transplanting, unless it is in the rainy season, the roots should be watered once and the ground mulched six inches deep. Budded trees, set in a rich soil—it can scarcely be too rich—I have seen send out shoots of six feet in a single season. About one hundred trees should be put to the acre, and the eighth year from the bud, if cared for, as a general thing, abundance will, the tree will yield fifteen hundred oranges, and each succeeding year it will give a bounteous increase, until, as in many instances, eight and ten thousand shipping fruit are gathered from a single tree. It is thus seen that a grove of ten acres, enough for a single family, the fruit selling at the grove at five dollars per thousand, gives an income few, very few, of our large cotton planters ever possessed.

Lemons and limes have a high commercial value, on account of the citric acid they contain. Large quantities of lime juice is shipped from Sicily to the United States, and it might be supplied from the Floridian peninsula. The lime is a constant bearer, a single tree of maturity giving ten barrels in a year. The soil this tree most delights in is rich in carbonate of lime. The coral reefs of Florida give it astonishing luxuriance and fruitfulness.

The question is often asked by a newly arrived emigrant, "what season of the year shall I transplant and bud the orange?" In answer, any season of the year when the sap is in motion, budding can be performed; and south of New Smyrna it is in motion every month of the year; trees can be transplanted any time, with much care in preserving the roots from mutilation, and the full growing fruit, and it will grow to maturity and ripen.

Swimming Under the Ice.

Muskrats have a curious method of travelling long distances under the ice. In their winter excursions to their feeding grounds, which are frequently at great distances from their abodes they take in breath at starting, and remain under water as long as they can. They then rise up to the ice, and breathe out the air in their lungs, which remains in bubbles against the under surface of the ice. They wait till the air recovers oxygen from the water and ice, and then take it again, and go on till the operation has to be repeated. In this way they can travel almost any distances, and in a straight line. Sometimes under the ice the hunter sometimes takes advantage of this habit of the muskrat in the following manner: When the marshes and ponds were the muskrats aboard at first frozen over and the ice is thin and clear, the striking into their houses with a hatchet for the purpose of setting his traps, he frequently sees a whole family plunge into the water and swim away under the ice. Following one of them for some distance, he soon finds a place where he his breath in the manner above described. After the animal has breathed against the ice, and before he has time to take his bubble in again, the hunter strikes with his hatchet directly over him, and drives him away from its breath. In this case he drowns in swimming a few rods, and the hunter, cutting a hole in the ice, takes him out. Mink, otter and beaver travel under the ice in the same way; and hunters have frequently told me of taking the otter in the manner described, when these animals visit the houses of the muskrat for prey.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

The carpet weavers at Philadelphia are still on a "strike" for higher wages.

There are only about six hundred persons employed in the Philadelphia Navy Yard—the smallest number for many years.

Butler's American Theater, New York, was burned on Tuesday night. The actors lost all their wardrobe, valued at $8,000. Loss on building and other property $11,000.

The Postoffice Department is advised that by the first of August four steamers will be running from San Francisco to Japan and China, and be ready to carry the mails regularly every Saturday, as received by the Pacific Railroad when completed.

Jay Gould, President, and Ebenezer Cook, Secretary of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company, were arrested by the United States Marshal at Davenport, Iowa, yesterday, upon a writ from the Circuit Court for violating the injunction issued from that court.

The Bobolink.

This well-known songster of the North—redbird or ortolan of the middle States, and ricebird of the south—is abundantly distributed throughout most sections of the continent, ranging from the latitude of Quebec in Canada to the middle States, in summer, and from the southern continents, in winter.

Early in spring it makes its northern migration, moving leisurely through the southern and middle States, and arrives in New England and its latitude about the middle of May. During this northern passage the birds depend for a subsistence very greatly upon the newly sown fields of grain, and the havoc they inflict is quite considerable. The male birds usually arrive at the breeding grounds several days before the females, during which interim they frequent meadows and fields in cultivated districts, in preference to thinly-settled localities, and soon become very tame and familiar, notwithstanding the severity with which they have been pursued by the inhabitants of all the countries they have had to traverse in their migrations, by whom they are regarded only as a pest and nuisance. The bobolink, it is said, is highly valued among his friends; and the bird, who would carefully avoid you in the south, will perch on your garden fence in New England, as familiarly as if he were also born and bred to civilization.

The bobolink's song is more peculiar, and has at sometime laughed, in spite of himself or herself, at the grotesque singer, as, perched on a twig in the cherry tree by the house, or in the elm by the road side, or alder by the brook, he nodded his head, quivered his wings, opened his mouth and rattled out the most curious, incomprehensible, jingling, roving about, careless, joyous, and altogether sweet medley that any birdfever uttered. As soon as the females arrive, they become the great objects of attention with their male neighbors; and the combats, both inside and out of doors, forced to say it—anger, for the possession of a favored one, between the contesting suitors, are almost innumerable. The females, at the outset, apparently indifferent to the attractions of any particular male, and, in fact, seems a little coy in at their manifestations; but all her indifference is unreal, and the cavalier who can outsing and vanquish his rival, becomes the possessor of her affections, or, if may be, for the widowed attractions, "to have and to hold" until the next autumn.

As soon as the birds are mated, early in June, they commence the structure in which their family is to be reared. Selecting a tussock of grass in a field or meadow, through which or near which a brook prattles of cool draughts, and sweet refreshing baths in the hot and thirsty summer, they begin to entwine, beneath the tussock, various coarse grasses, fine grasses and rootlets into a loose and not deeply-hollowed nest. The position is so well chosen that, nine times out of ten, if you walk the meadow over, knowing it to be there, you will not discover the nest. The male bird flies only a few rods, singing and complaining, as soon as you draw near his home, and the female, skurrying off through the thick grass, rises away from her nest, that you may not discover its locality.

The eggs are four or five in number, and vary, in color, from a light ashey blue, with spots of blackish brown, to a pale brownish clay, with spots and blotches of number, of different shades. During the season of incubation, and until the young birds leave the nest, Bob has but little to do with his neighbors; but when the young are turned aside to shift for themselves, the members of different families untie into a large scattered flock, and roam through the neighborhood, feasting on all the good things available.

It is at this period that the male exchanges his sprightful suit, for one more in keeping with his "old folks" condition; and he arrays himself in a dress very similar to the sober one of his mate, drooping at the same time his lofty song, and uttering only a single notes, like the yellow chicks. At this time it is almost impossible to distinguish the male from the female or young bird, as they fly away from you in the field, so much do they resemble each other.

Early in September the bobolinks begin to move southward; and although they obtain a great portion of their sustenance from fields and meadows, gleaning seeds of grasses, and weeds, and insects, they make sad mischief in the fields of late grain and fruit, and the firing of guns during the passage through the middle and southern States, not only by farmers and planters, but by sportsmen, who shoot them for the table and market, is as much a matter of slaughter as necessary—*E. A. Samuels in Oliver Optic's Magazine.*

DEATH OF A REMARKABLE HEN.—The Buffalo *Commercial* says: Everybody knows that the gallant Weldrich's Battery—which did such good service during the rebellion—accompanied Sherman on his "march to the sea;" but every body don't know that during the march, somewhere in South Carolina, one of the soldiers of the battery captured a hen—he having determined, we presume, that Sherman should go through. It took every blessed hen along the whole route.

This hen was not killed, but was tamed, and became a great favorite and pet with the men. Sometimes she would ride on a caisson, and sometimes on one of the horses. When a halt was called, and the soldiers ate their meals, she would forage about in quest of food, always returning to the battery to "roost." By way of requiting the kindness shown her, she laid an egg every day in a nest provided for her on a caisson—and we are not sure but that "on Sundays she laid two."

She went safely through with the long march to Savannah, thence to Washington, and when the battery was brought home with the boys of the battery to Buffalo. She was claimed by private Jacob Dishinger, who doubtless love her for the dangers she had passed, and took the best possible care of her. She lived and laid and reared untold and few days ago, when she died at the residence of Mr. Dishinger, on Genesee street, near Michigan. She was tenderly cared for during her illness, was deeply mourned, and interred with all due respect.

Much political gossip was recently excited in London in consequence of the attendance of Mr. and Mrs. Disnell at a reception by Mrs. Gladstone. The new Premier was seen to engage in a long and animated conversation with his distinguished rival, and many absurd stories are related in consequence. It has never been unusual for the chiefs of opposite parties to partake of this, the slightest and least of hospitalities, which really imply nothing more than a certain position in society. Mr. Gladstone has constantly attended Lord Derby's receptions, and the leaders of the Conservative Opposition were frequently to be seen at Cambridge House. It has hitherto been considered unusual for the Prime Minister to drop in about eleven and mingle with the crowd of political friends and foes at the house of a leading antagonist. Neither Sir Robert Peel nor Lord Derby was ever known to do so.

Burnett's Cocoaine for the Hair.

This superior preparation has become renowned as possessing unrivalled hair dressing properties. It surpasses French oils, and Pomades and alcoholic washes, is free from silver, lead or sulphur, so commonly in use in deleterious compounds, and in fact it has no equal for the glossiness which it imparts to the hair, without staining, drying, or stiffening it. It is altogether the cheapest and best hair dressing in the world. Price one dollar per half pint bottle. Sold by all druggists. w&s*

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 8.

The chief features in the local money market are a gradual relaxation in its stringency, and another advance in Government securities. Our bankers claim that they are rapidly getting in condition to afford all necessary accommodation to their customers. The reports of the improved ease in the loan market at the eastern centers are having their legitimate influence on that of our own. The New York press is industriously speculating on the causes which led to the recent monetary spasm. They all agree in condemning the policy of the Government in refusing to buy seven-thirties during several successive critical days last month, when the Treasury balance was larger than usual, thus locking up greenbacks and disturbing the banking machinery at the most critical time of the year. It would appear further that the stringency was produced mainly by artificial causes. There appears to be now at those points an abundant supply of available capital, and more confidence to lend. Everything tends to show that there will be plenty of loanable funds to meet the demands of the commercial and industrial interests of the country.

—Governments are strong, in good demand, and advancing in price. The following are the quotations of Government securities and gold received to-day by James T. Brady & Co., Bankers:

Gold, 138¼; U. S. 6s, 1881, 112¾; U. S. 5-20s, 1862, 111⅛; do 1864, 109⅜; do 1865, 110; U. S. 10-40s, 102½; U. S. 5-9os, January and July, 1865, 108; do 1867, 108⅝; June 7-30s, 106⅞; July 7-30s, 106⅞; May Compounds 1865-118½.

—Railway shares are without animation, and few stocks are offering. Fort Wayne has advanced, as well as many of the other Western roads. Erie is weak and declining. Its price in the future depends so much upon the result of the Vanderbilt-Drew fight, that outsiders feel like holding off. The following table, as reported by J. W. Kennedy, broker, will show the comparative range of prices for the past week:

	April (2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Fort Wayne	99⅝	100⅜	100⅝	101	101⅛	102
Cleveland & Pitts.	87½	87¾	87¾	87¾	87¾	87¾
Erie	74⅜	75⅜	75⅜	74⅝	73⅝	72½
New York Central	125	125	125	125	125	125
Reading	90	90⅜	90⅝	90⅝	91⅛	91⅜
Michigan Southern	88	88⅝	90	90	90⅜	90⅝
North Western	65¾	65¾	65¾	65¾	65¾	65¾
Do. preferred	74⅜	74⅜	75½	75½	76⅛	76⅜
Rock Island	92	92	92	92	92	92

The ship Panama, the last vessel building in New York, will be launched to-day.

The Central Railroad strike will be ended at West Albany, by an advance of wages, to day.

Timothy S. Fitch, a prominent citizen of Chicago, was fined $400 in the Court of Criminal Correction at St. Louis yesterday, for misdemeanor, alleged false swearing in connection with the Pacific Railroad second some five years ago. A motion for a new trial will be made.

The committee appointed by the Arkansas Convention for that purpose have declared the Constitution adopted. No order has as yet been received from Gen. Gillem announcing the result of the election.

The late high prices of cotton have induced many planters to prepare for putting in much larger crops than was intended.

The fruit crop in the vicinity of Nashville was blighted by the frost yesterday morning.

Dickens gave his farewell reading in Boston last night. It was a perfect success of artist. The audience and he gave three cheers as he retired.

A billiard match for the championship of America was played at Chicago last night, between John McDevitt and Melvin Foster. The game lasted nearly a late hours, being yet unfinished at the time of our closing.

A. T. Tracy, President, and Ebenezer Cook, Secretary of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company, were arrested by the United States Marshal at Davenport, Iowa, yesterday, upon a writ from the Circuit Court for violating the injunction issued from that court.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, April 9, 1868.

BUSINESS.—The oil trade yesterday came very near to a stand still. We have seldom noticed less disposition to operate; it was pretty much all talk and no sale. Buyers are waiting to hear of something favorable for their side; holders are disposed to take things easy, refusing to make concessions in order to effect sales, feeling confident that they can mark things, tending downward, but no sales were reported. Eastern dispatches say holders are asking yesterday's prices although no sales were effected.

REFINED OIL.—The demand being limited, sales were of a similar description. We report the following: 2,000 bbls. S. white in 1,000 bbl. lots, Philadelphia, last half of October, at 26c; 600 bbls. last half of May, at 25½c; 500 bbls. last half of April, S. O., 23½ @ gallon.

BENZOLE.—Sales 500 bbls. on the spot at 13c. Antwerp dispatches: market dull at 42¾ francs.

CRUDE.—We did not learn of a single operation.

PETROLEUM MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA.

The market is reported less active, and the *Commercial List*, reduces quotations 3c @ gallon for crude, with the remark that there has been scarcely any disposition to contract for Refined for forward delivery at present quotations. Sales of 2,000 bbls crude at 16¾@18¾c; and 500 bbls do, in bulk, at 18½c for 47 degrees and 12@12¼c for 45 do. Of refined, in bond, we notice sales of 5,000 bbls S. W., on the spot at 22½@23c; chiefly 2,000 bbls S. W. in bond for first half of April at 23½c; 3,000 bbls do do at 23@23½c; 8,500 bbls last half of April at 23 @23½c b. o. 60 days; 1,000 bbls S. W. in bond for May at 23½c; 1,000 bbls S. W. for June at 26@26½c b. o. 1,500 bbls S. W., for July at 26,@26½c, do. do. contracted for August at 25@25½c b. o. all the month; 250 for May; 125c for June; 27c for July; and 27½c for August; free oil, in lots, 40@41c @ gallon; 1,000 bbls Standard White, at Lubricating Oils range from 25c to 50c @ gallon. Volcanics, 22@30c. Benzole, 13c. Mount Farm is worth 24c. The receipts during the past week were 5,356 bbls crude and 1,123 refined. The exports for the week were 1,025,622 gallons refined and 176,154 gallons crude. Total exports from Philadelphia, 1,201,776 gallons against 2,420,829 gallons same time in 1867. Thirty-three vessels are now loading for foreign ports.

BOSTON.

The market for refined oil, so far as the duty-paid articles is concerned, says the *Bulletin*, of Saturday last, is quiet, unsettled and demoralized. This condition of things is owing to the reduction of the exclac tax, which has caused considerable loss to owners of stocks on hand. The measure has been discounted, to some extent, in commercial circles, for as far back as June, with considerable purchases in advance; and its final passage has caused a still further settling down of the market, to a range indicated by the reduced cost of production.

Western crude oil is now offered at a reduction of about 10c from rates current a few weeks ago; but the delivered cost of crude landed in refineries at the principal local markets are doing no business in the free article, and the demand for refined is very light, from the fact, of course, unaffected by late legislation, and prices are nominally unchanged. There is no speculation, and the entire trade seems to be confined to small lots sold mostly to orders from markets in Southern latitudes. Crude oil is in fair supply, and there is a steady accumulation at the wells, to come forward to the refineries on the trade's demand for larger lots for distribution. But the current demand, both for shipment and manufacturing, is light, and with large receipts, prices would be lower than they are now.

We quote crude petroleum quiet at 15½@16c @ gal in bulk, and refined in barrels, for export, quiet and oil in bond is steady and in moderate demand at 23@ 23½c @ gallon for export, return, gauge for Boston, and for in cans and cases for shipment to Southern latitudes. Free oil is unsettled, and prices have further declined. Sales of 1,000 bbls at 40c @ gallon, but buyers of round lots are not disposed to operate in the absence of a reduction in the duty. Benzole in barrels is not quotable, with business mostly suspended. Naphtha is unsettled and the heavy grades almost lifeless; no sales here to report. Benzoline is quiet at $1 00@1 25 @ bbl.

Petroleum Exports.

The growth of the Petroleum export trade is truly marvelous, and statistics show that this apparently inexhaustible native product is rapidly being substituted for other kinds of illuminating fluids in the civilized world. A Boston correspondent of the New York *Shipping List*, furnishes facts and figures which show the trade for the first quarter of 1868 with the North of Europe—Antwerp, Bremen, Rotterdam and Hamburg, as compared with the same quarter of last year as well as New York, with this difference, however, Vanderbilt and Drew are managing their roads in the interest of stock jobbing cliques, while our Canada and Philadelphia friends are bringing their brains to subserve the interests of the great industrial communities of which they are honored and trustworthy members. If the arrangement which we have suggested be consummated, there is a bright future for the Fort Wayne and Allegheny Valley. The project is entirely feasible, and we have reason to believe that it will be carried out.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 8, 1868.

During the past week we have noticed a greater amount of activity in nearly every department of trade. The principal demand is for legitimate commercial purposes, and holders are in a healthy trade. The provision market is characterized by great activity, and higher prices are realized. There is an active demand for flour, but prices are not yet changed; and, in fact, in nearly every branch of trade, there has been little or no change for some time past.

The receipts of leading articles of produce by river and rail since our last report are as follows: Flour, in bbls; apples, 12 bbls; corn, 124 sacks; wheat, 41 sacks; rye, 40 sacks; barley, 18 sacks; oats, 50 sacks, and butter, 24 packages.

In our new breadstuffs figures we give the wholesale store prices unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—Prices are firm at $3 50@3 75 @ bbl, as to quality and amount of sales. Sales reported of 25 bbls choice at $4 @ bbl.

BUTTER—The market appears stiffer to-day at 45@ 50c for prime to choice roll. Sales of 10 packages reported at these prices, and also 12 packages roll at 42c; 2 do at 46c, 2 do at 48c, and 2 do at high as 55c @ lb.

CHEESE—Prices are rather tending upward. Sales of choice were made at 22c @ dozen.

BACON, LARD, ETC.—The market is active and tending to the advance. We quote: Bacon—Hams, canvassed do 19@20c; shoulders 15c; rib sides 16c; clear sides 17c; dried beef 20c, and lard in tierces at 19@ 20c @ lb.

DRIED FRUITS—We quote dried apples at 7½c, and dried peaches 11@12c @ lb.

APPLE BUTTER—Sales of 8 kegs were made at 90@ 95c @ gal.

FISH—We note sales of 10 half-bbls Lake herring at $8, and 10 do at $5 each.

HOPS—Sales reported of No. 2 western $1 50, and fancy at $4 50 @ doz.

CHEESE—We note sales of Western Reserve at 14@ 15c, and Goshen at 18c @ lb.

CRANBERRIES—Sales at $5@6 75 @ bbl.

HOMINY—We note sales of 10 bbls at $6 @ bbl.

MESS PORK—Active and higher at $27 00@27 50 @ bbl.

SEED—We quote clover seed in light request at $8 of @8 25; timothy seed at $2 75, and flaxseed at $2 50@2 60 @ bush.

POTATOES—We have no change to note; peachblows are selling at $3 00@3 75, and buckeyes at $1 25 @1 50 @ bbl. Sweet potatoes sell at $2 50@3 00 @ bbl.

HAY—Sales of 12 loads prime timothy hay were made at $2 @27 @ ton, and baled at $30@35 @ ton, by the car load and on wharf.

PICKLES—Sales of 20 bbls at $16 @ bbl, in vinegar.

Groceries.

The decline in gold and the tight money market have caused a general decline, but prices fall slightly, and in other goods no change has been effected. We quote:

COFFEE—Old Government Java, in bags, 35c; in mats, 36c; Laguayra, 26@27c; Rio, choice 27c; prime, 26c; good, 25c; ordinary, 24c.

SUGARS—Porto Rico, 16@18c; Cuba, 12@14½c; Sugar House, 11½@13c; Granulated, 17½c; Powdered, 17½c; Crushed, 17½c; A Coffee, 16½c; B do, 16¼c; extra C, 15½c; C do, 15c; New Orleans 11@15½c; Demerara 15@16½c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, 85@95c; Porto Rico, 70@ 80c; Cuba, 60@75c; Demerara, 85c.

SYRUP—Lovering's, $1 00; other choice brands, $1 00; fair to good, 90@95c; golden drips, $1 00.

TEAS—Young Hyson, common to finest, 90@$ 1 85; Imperial and Gunpowder, do, $1 20@2 00; Japan, $1 30@1 85; Oolong, $1 20@1 80.

RICE—Carolina, 12½@13c; Rangoon, 10½@11½c.

VINEGAR—We quote white wine vinegar, in original packages, 30c; Pittsburgh manufacture 12½c @ gallon, at the works.

FISH—No. 1 Shore Mackerel, $21; No. 2 Shore $17; No. 1 Bay do, $23; No. 2 Bay do, $17; No. 3 large do, $7 00; Lake Herring, $4 00; White Fish, $7 50. Codfish, 6½@7½c.

SODA—Bi-carb Soda, 8½@9c. American 8c.

SPICES—Pimento, 38c; Pepper, 38c; Cloves, 45c; Nutmegs, $1 60; Cassia, 30@35c.

SOAP—McKeon, Van Baaren & Co.'s Chemical Soap, Bubbles, Pittsburgh, Lockey's, 11½c.

LYE—Concentrated Lye, $7 25.

CANDLES—Proctor & Gamble's candles, 25c for full weight; mould candles, 20 @ 21c.

INDIGO—Bengal, $1 50; Manilla 95c@$1 45.

EAR HEAD—12½c.

DROP SHOT—13c.

GRAIN—Shelled corn from store may be quoted at $1@1 05, and in depot by the car load, 90@$1. Ear corn from store is worth 75@80c, and in depot 70@75c @ bushel. On the wharf oats sold at 77@78c, and from store at 80@82c @ bushel. From first hands rye may be quoted at $1 70@1 75 @ bushel; rates reported of 500 bushels at $1 80. Barley is scarce and in fair demand; one car sold at $2 50 @ bushel. There is more wheat coming in but prices continue to rule at $2 50 for red wheat, and white wheat at $2 60 @ bushel.

CORN MEAL—There is a moderate demand from store at $1 10@1 15 @ bushel.

FLOUR—The market is active but unchanged. We quote choice winter wheat flour at $12 00@12 50; choice spring brands $10 75@11 25 and medium $9 00 @10 00 @ bbl. There is a fair demand for country brands, but we will known brands of choice spring and winter are very active. Rye flour commands $8 50 @bbl. Buckwheat flour is not much called for, and would not sell at over $3 @ hundred.

T. G. Selby & Co., wholesale and retail flour dealer, Checkerce Front, No. 278 Liberty street:

Dayton Snow Flake White winter	$ 12 50
Dayton Amber do	11 25
Old Dominion	11 25
Jenkins's Lilly	11 00
Extra	10 75
Clark's & Sears's	10 75
Baker Dale	10 50
Gree swood	10 50
Medium	9 50@10 00

Building Material.

There is beginning to be some movement in this market, and prospects are favorable for a large business during the coming season. We note sales:

Sales of 2 rafts square lumber at $14; common boards $18 @ m; with an offer reported by a city purchaser to take 2 million feet at $30 in the waters. Shingles in the river may be quoted at $6 00 and lath at $4.

SLATE—First quality Pennsylvania slate in yard commands $12 @ hundred square feet, and 2d quality do do $10.

BRICK—We quote hand made city brick at $7@10 delivered; paving do $14@15; pressed brick $25 to $40, and machine made at $7@8.

SAND—Building sand is quoted at 75 @ bushel in boats.

GRAVEL—In boats gravel is quoted at 50@60 @ yard and delivered 60@12c @ yard.

PAVING STONES—We quote at 40@50c @ yard in boats at river as per quality and quantity.

Philadelphia Fruit Market.

Foreign—The stock of oranges and lemons is small and the demand good. By auction on Monday, cargo ship Baltic, 3,500 boxes Palermo oranges sold at $6@6 50; 1,000 boxes Palermo lemons at $5 @6 75@ 7 50; do Palermo oranges (damaged) at 3½@3 90— cash and 30 days. Havana oranges are in fair supply at $7@8 @ box, as to quality. Layer raisins are steady at $4 10 for whole boxes; $2 10 for half boxes; and $1 10 for quarter boxes. Valencia raisins are not; prompt at 13½c; in bags at 12@12c; and new currants at 12c.

Domestic—Dried apples are in good demand at $6@6 60 for New York, and $4 50@5 00 for Western. Dried fruit is very dull. Sales of southern peaches (Ohio) at 9@9½c; Pears at 7½@8c; and choice New York at 8½@9c. Peaches are in limited request with sales of quarters at 7½@8c; and at 10@12c; halves at 18c; choice at 19c; pared at 20@25c. Dried blackberries are steady at 14c; raspberries at 35@ 40c; whortleberries at $1@1 25. North Carolina peaches sell at $2 25@2 50. Apples are in good demand. Shellbarks are selling at $2 25@2 75 @ bushel; and crabs or trees at $4 50@5 00 @ bbl, as to quality—the latter figure for extra.

Seeds at Philadelphia.

Clover seed is dull at a further decline of 50c @ bush. Sales of 800 bush common and prime Pennsylvania at $6 50@7 75, and choice Ohio at $8 00@8 25. To-day 200 bush prime Ohio sold at $8. Timothy ranges from $2 50 to $2 62½, and flaxseed from $2 90 to $3 00. Canary seed is held at 6c @ lb. Hungarian and Millet for Sparrows, Philadelphia, $1 50, and rape seed at the same figure.

PITTSBURGH DRY GOODS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, April 8, 1868.

Spring trade has opened altogether slowly. Wood street is now in a dull state of activity, and dealers making their appearance in respectable numbers. Still they hesitate and cannot forget the vexatious experience of the past few weeks, in which violent changes were made in value, and every purchaser fears a similar condition of affairs now.

However, the recent advance and firm price to-day of cotton seems to make it a matter of comparative certainty that prices will be sustained, and we quote as below, believing that goods will not be lower for three months at least:

PRINTS.

Merrimack D	14 @15	Gloucester	13@14
Merrimack fancy	15 @16	Manchester	13@14
Richmond	15 @16	Mourning	13@14
Allendale	13@13½	Arnold	13@14

SHEETINGS.

Anchor	13 @13½	Eagle	13 @13½
Penn	13 @13½		

Market firm and with an upward tendency.

Baltimore Coffee and Sugar Market.

Coffee—The market has through the past week been very firm in tone, and while the sales have been small, buyers generally as yet being unprepared to pay the prices demanded by holders. The sales since our last review comprise 3,500 bags Rio ex-Agnes, on private terms; 4,000 bags do ex-Winifred, private terms; 1,000 bags do ex-Ellen Austin, 14½@ 14¾c; 500 bags do in lots from second hands, at from 15 to 15c gold, duty paid. We quote to-day prime cargoes and invoices Rio held firmly at 12¾@12¾c gold, in bond, and good to prime do, duty paid, at 17@18c gold.

Sugars have been active again this week and prices have been steadily maintained. Sales 800 hgd fully C. 500 do do do, 13½c; 500 do do do, 13¾c; 500 Porto Rico and Demerara, taken for refining at 13¾ @14c; 4 months, 200 hhds Porto Rico ex-Warbler, 4 months, 200 hhds Porto Rico ex-Wardwell, and 200 hhds Porto Rico at 14¼@14½c; 565 hhds Porto Rico at from 13½ to 13¾c; 80 hhds Barbadoes at 11½c; and 465 hhds Cuba, 11½@12c. Refined sugars are in fair demand and part at 14¾@14¾c. We quote grain to-day as follows: Crushed, 17½c; Powdered, 17½c; Granulated, 17½c; for grocery grades Cuba; 14¼@13c for Porto Rico; and 12½@12¾c for Muscovado. Refined Sugars—Rates have been advanced this week, and we now quote as follows: Extra White, 16½c; Extra C, 15½c; C, 15c; Yellow, 14½c; Coffee A, 15½c for B; 15½c for C extra; and 15c for C yellow. *Commercial.*

Boston Wool Market.

From the circular of Fenno, Abbott & Co., of March 30th, we learn that there has been no particular change in the market during the past week, except perhaps an increased firmness in the price of good fight lots or coarse and medium fleece and super pulled, which in some instances have been sold at an advance of one or two cents @ lb. Many of the mills continue to run on their machinery on heavy goods, adapted for the fall trade, fearing to risk the spring market, and being compelled to make goods that will cost the least possible price. Three-quarter (¾) blood wools are in larger stock than other grades and less inquired for. Some lots have been sold at one cent off from last week's prices, but the tone of the market on the whole is *strong and healthy*, and we do not anticipate much change until the new clip. The receipts for the week have been about 375,000 lbs against 546,000 lbs for the same time last year, and the sales foot up about 1,600,000 lbs against 630,000 lbs for the same period.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PIG IRON AND BLOOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, April 11, 1868.

Pig Iron and Blooms.

A fair business is doing in raw irons. Receipts of desirable standard forge descriptions continue light, scarcely equal to the demand, and with sales of favorite brands, in some instances in advance of production. Prices for such are well sustained.

Medium and common grades are in better supply, and being offered at relatively lower rates, are attracting more attention from consumers.

For fine charcoal irons, both forge and foundry, there is more inquiry, especially for extra forge descriptions—yet the business doing is light.

Having been unable to obtain returns from several of the commission merchants, our report of sales is necessary less complete than we would desire.

Our object in reporting the details of sales, is that those who take an interest in our iron market may have the benefit of such detail. Whilst we have always endeavored to give the fullest detail possible, we have carefully guarded against any exposure of business, to which the most sensitive could object. Yet it sometimes occurs that, from some cause, whether unintended reticence or an unwillingness that the true state of the market should be known, a few parties engaged in the business of selling raw irons, decline reporting their sales, and seem to be generally dissatisfied if we give correct reasons for a complete report of the business doing.

We are reported the following sales:

Bituminous Coal Smelted from Lake Superior Ores.

600 tons Good Grey Medium Forge deliverable at Furnace.....$37 75—cash.
100 tons Good Grey Forge.....$37 50—cash.
200 tons deliverable at Rochester.....35 62½ mos.
200 tons White and M

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1868.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

CROP AND FRUIT PROSPECT.

Our friends everywhere will confer a favor by writing us briefly concerning the grain and fruit prospect, and the farming and business prospect generally. We shall be obliged for any item of local interest that may be within their knowledge.

PRIMARY ELECTIONS AND PARTY ORGANIZATION.

In Chicago the Republicans have suffered on account of the irregularities and corruptions practiced at the primary elections. We learn from the *Tribune*, of that city, that

> "The Central Committee have also given orders that none shall be allowed to vote at the primary meetings, *unless they have previously acted with the Republican party.* With a correct record of the names of those voting, and a careful challenge of illegal or corrupt political voters, the honest men who desire to attend, may count on a fairly conducted election where any proper vote will have its due and equal weight. This is all that any Republican can ask, and we hope that every man entitled to a vote, will be on hand and cheerfully aid in having the candidates, regardless of personal importunity or other electioneering devices."

The evil is general and growing, and should be remedied. The Chicago Central Committee have made a move in the right direction. None but Republicans should choose the delegates and make the nominations of the party. In Lancaster county, in this State, where has been adopted the system of submitting the claims of candidates to a direct vote of the people, the most satisfactory results have attended the change. Whether candidates or delegates, to meet in convention, are voted for direct, none but Republicans should participate; and to this end there should be a carefully prepared registry of the voters. But the confining the election to members of the party would not be the only important service of the registry, after it was once made. It would constitute the only reliable basis of a complete party organization. We need not say that a careful canvass is absolutely necessary to a successful campaign. It is not only the most effective method of conducting an election, but it is by far the cheapest, whether considered as to time, exertion or money. A thorough canvass gave us the victory last month in New Hampshire. It is assisting to do it in Connecticut, and no party is safe without one. And in our judgment it is entirely proper to submit to the ascertained members of the party the question of candidates, either direct or through delegates voted for direct.

RAILROAD COMPETITION AND TRANSPORTATION.

The VANDERBILT-DREW controversy, and an exposure of the monopolizing purposes of the great manager of the New York Central and its connections with the city, have awakened the public thoroughly to the importance of building and maintaining competing lines. In the West the subject is enlisting the attention it deserves; and this is perfectly natural, as the cost of transportation between the great producing regions and tide water is a vital consideration, and correspondingly is it to the producer and consumer everywhere. It is this that has given to VANDERBILT the unpopularity so generally manifested. The principle is of universal application. Railway competition, east and west, is the great need of Pittsburgh at the present moment. Places enjoying the benefit of it become competitors, although in all else possessing few of our advantages. The cost of transportation enters so largely into trade and manufactures that it has become of prime importance. Combinations, therefore, to keep it up are viewed with alarm. At a recent meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce this view of the Erie controversy was distinctly presented; and it addresses itself equally to Pittsburgh and other cities interested in cheap transportation, which seldom exists, except as the result of competition. It is indisputable that with competition the year round, the business of Pittsburgh would increase rapidly, over and above the rate at which it has increased even under the present state of things. It is to her transportation facilities that Chicago more than any one thing owes its marvelous growth; and we observe that the rival city of St. Louis is alive to the vital importance of securing competition, as the main consideration bearing on her future prosperity. As to new routes eastward, our prospect is a promising one; and we hope that westward it may become so. The Ohio river improvement has an important bearing on the subject, and the improvements proposed will insure to Pittsburgh important advantages in freights. The Baltimore and Ohio Road is said to have adopted a policy which we wish the roads running to and from Pittsburgh would adopt with reference to her trade—that of a reduced scale of freights, whereby all the benefits are secured, which active rivalry between competing roads would insure. It is perhaps asking too much of these roads to take into special consideration the interest of Pittsburgh in this matter; but in the long run, it will prove to their interest to do so, for there never was a great manufacturing point yet that did not sooner or later redress its own injuries and supply its own wants.

MR. DISRAELI'S BREAK-DOWN.

DISRAELI, the new Premier, has suffered a defeat sooner than any one dreamed. The success of the GLADSTONE proposition declaring against the further endowment of the Church in Ireland, and for its "disestablishment," was unexpected and overwhelming. The effect of this marked success of the Liberals on the future of Ireland, and Great Britain in general, must be important. Another ministry will naturally follow, and DISRAELI will have had a brief enjoyment of the position where, as much on account of his previous history as anything, he attracted the attention of the world.

The "disestablishment" of the Church—a vast ecclesiastical institution, conferring immense power—is a concession to that portion of Her Majesty's subjects, which will not be confined to Ireland. Whether it allays the irritation which has attained a pitch there little less than dangerous, remains to be seen. But whether it does or not, it is scarcely to be doubted that it will encourage the demands of the reformers in England; and we may safely conclude that it will be followed by demands and concessions quite as important as any yet granted in regard to suffrage. The Church of England and its divorcement from the Government, it is predicted, will be the next demand, to be followed by others not less radical concerning property tenures, aimed at the life of the aristocracy. Too little is known to warrant, at this moment, any very positive predictions as to the effect of this little less than revolutionary outburst, which has carried the new Premier down; nor can it be known yet what motives combined to give so signal a victory to the Liberals. We may assume, however, that Fenianism has played not the least important part, and that it is expected, by concessions to the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland, that this disturbing element will be squelched. That it is a vast concession to the Roman Catholics in Ireland, is indisputable. Four-fifths of the Irish people are Catholics; and it is altogether probable that the idea of purchasing quiet and order there entered largely into the motives of the majority. In this view of the case, it is a concession to Fenianism. What will come of it, and what concessions will be demanded by other classes of her Majesty's subjects, are questions that will make English politics especially interesting in American eyes.

THERE is nothing connected with our revenue more disgraceful than the total failure to collect the spirit tax. The attempt to do so is a burlesque and a farce, and the discussion in the Senate revealed the fact that many of the provisions of the existing tax law operated as the strongest inducements to the officials to connive at the frauds so shamefully perpetrated.

So says a Philadelphia contemporary, and the truth here uttered has led the country to look anxiously for the day when the present administration will be expelled. Little less than complete demoralization exists in the Revenue Department, where jobbing and corruption prevail, If impeachment succeeds, the first duty of the new administration will be to inaugurate a system whereby, so far as such a thing is possible, honest and thoroughly capable men only will hold positions in the revenue service. So systematic has swindling become that the swindlers and the government appear to be working together; that is, but for connivance of government officers, the swindling would be immensely less. It seems quite impossible that what everybody else knows should not be known to the government. And the fact that dishonest and incapable men continue to receive appointments and are kept in office, has created the conviction that in regard to the spirit tax, if in no other respect, the Treasury Department is corrupt from head to foot. If ever the Republican party obtains the full control, we hope to see introduced a rigid system for sifting the qualifications of all applicants for office—a system no less rigid than the one regulating appointments to the army and navy. The country is paying dearly for the luxury of pensioning off party hacks, incapable or too lazy to earn an honest living. It is this that should be broken up; and it is the hope of a thorough reform, in the collection of taxes especially, that has commended impeachment to the country as a measure of relief.

IT is wonderful with what facility some professedly Free Railroad advocates adopt the argument that it will be inexpedient and not advantageous to permit the people to borrow money for building railroads. The suggestion was originally thrown out by the Central Company, who having enjoyed from the Legislature almost unlimited borrowing privileges, have suddenly become convinced that it is a dangerous policy. For example, the Western Pennsylvania Road, which is a branch of the Central, was built almost wholly by issuing bonds. The privilege was readily given by the Legislature. No one objected then, no one regrets it now. Experience has shown that it is safe to confer the privilege on companies to borrow as much as they need and can give security for. They never go beyond their wants, and capitalists are always sure to take care of themselves. We know that it will be unavailing to discuss the question before this Legislature; but another we hope will be more reasonable and less under restraint. The insincerity of those who profess to be good Free Railroad advocates, and at the same time retail the subterfuge thrown out by the great enemy of all roads that it does not hurt, does not affect, deserves to be exposed. We venture to say that of every ten raising an objection to what has in practice been found expedient and necessary, at least nine are in the interest or under the influence of the Monopoly.

ONE JAMES S. BRISBIN, formerly of Pennsylvania, writes a letter dated at Lexington, Kentucky, assailing ex-Governor CURTIN in the most outrageous manner, because he happens to be the favorite of Pennsylvania and the soldiers of the country, for Vice President. This BRISBIN is a paper hero, and in some way or other obtained a military title—General, we believe—and we make little doubt that he is indebted to Governor CURTIN for it, and that he, like others, has chosen this method to pay the debt. We know that men whom the Governor, by personal exertion and inconvenience, saved from disgrace, and who are under obligations to him which most men will not disregard, were among the first to oppose and assault him when his name was presented for the Vice Presidency; and we suggest at a venture that this man BRISBIN belongs to that class. As a specimen of his assault, we quote the following

> "It so happened that in 1860, in time of peace, he was chosen Governor of Pennsylvania, and the war soon after broke out. He was, by virtue of his office, one of the great Union Governors—not that he was great, but that his State was a great State. He never was great, nor Morton, nor Curtin. He saw in it a re-election, and made himself, whose mind of readers is that he is the best friend, and deceiving nearly all. He came to Washington and held high revels, and was giving some days at Willard's Hotel, with toon companions. I am told would return to Pennsylvania, to no weighty public, but like the hero of old Greece, when he had visited the lowpits, ministered to the sick and comforted their poor boys, whom as I had not seen at all."

We advise BRISBIN to remain in Kentucky; at any rate, keep away from Pennsylvania. There is no spot in the borders of the State where he could escape the scourging which the calumniator richly merits, and would receive from our veterans, the widows and orphans of brave men fallen, and from decent men of every party. It is only by creatures outside of this State that Governor CURTIN'S fidelity to the soldiers of Pennsylvania and the country is ever questioned, and Kentucky probably affords a congenial atmosphere for them. BRISBIN, we believe, has no competitor for the fame which he has fairly won by this assault on Governor CURTIN.

THE French are still puzzled about our political affairs. They do not understand how we can depose a President without violence or revolutionary outbreak. And, furthermore, they are not pleased that we should demonstrate to the world that our Republic, founded on the intelligence of the people, is adapted to any emergency and capable of withstanding the assaults of enemies within and without. Not only Frenchmen but all the world can see in passing events that our Government is both liberal and strong, and that the United States have in the last six years withstood what no other nation could. But probably nothing has surprised the European nations so much—nothing has been to the French in particular the occasion of so much disappointment—as what was supposed by them would prove our greatest trial and the crisis of our history—impeachment—but which proves to be no crisis at all. The absense of all excitement, the downward tendency of gold, and the matter-of-course acquiescence by the people, with not so much as a jar or discord of any kind in the working of the machinery of Government, we are assured by late advices, quite confound the French leaders who cannot disguise from themselves the contrast between the United States and the Empire, threatened as the latter is with convulsion the moment the single hand which directs the power whereby the people are kept down, is withdrawn.

A FACT has been brought to light which is likely to materially assist Gov. SEYMOUR, of New York, to the Democratic Presidential nomination. It is this: Early in 1861, Gov. SEYMOUR visited New York and there met the Hon. CHARLES H. RUGGLES, of Poughkeepsie, of whom he asked, "Judge, have you read the Confederate "Constitution [then recently published]?" "No," replied Judge R.; "I have glanced "over it, but not read it attentively." "Well," rejoined Gov. S., "*I have* read it "carefully; and it is a better framework of "government than *our* [Federal] Constitution. Now, why not end all our trouble by simply adopting that [Confederate] Constitution?" Mr. SEYMOUR has not thought best, though he has had time enough, to deny the accuracy of the report of the conversation, and it is presumed that he regards it as so much personal capital; and it ought to insure him the united support of his "Southern brethren." However that may be, he is aware that a denial from him would be followed by proof of the entire accuracy of the statement.

BALTIMORE, not content with two European steamship lines, has projected another to and from Havre. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, through whose instrumentality the Bremen line was started, are at the foot of the Havre line. They are the substantial strength, also, of the steam lines plying to Cuba and to New Orleans. JOHN S. HORKINS has offered to build the first ship at his own expense, costing about $250,000, and the railroad company will back him with other vessels. Will not Philadelphia take the hint, and quietly suggest to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company that the example of the Baltimore and Ohio Company is worthy of imitation?

IN the New York Assembly, the Hon. Mr. GLENN has charged directly and specifically that the report on the Erie Railway bill was bought with money; that a portion of the votes on the floor adopting said report were bought; that members of the House have been engaged in buying their fellow members; that some of the committee charge for their reports; and that corruption prevails generally in the Legislature. This certainly is a lamentable state of things, and very damaging to the fame of New York, and the reputation of the members of the Legislature thereof. But here in Pennsylvania, we are comforted with the thought that nothing of the sort ever takes place in our Legislature.

THE Arkansas Constitution appears to have been carried by a small majority, although the returns are yet incomplete. The instrument is said to embody many liberal and progressive features, and its adoption marks a new era in the history of the State. Arkansas will be among the first to resume her proper place in the family of States. The contest was an excited one, with much bitterness on both sides. Up to the close and some days after, the opposition were confident; but the returns have dispelled the delusion. A letter from Hon. B. F. RICE, chairman of the Republican State Committee, says the majority will be about sixteen hundred and fifty. He says:

> "While I am writing, the colored people are marching through the streets with bands of music. You never saw such an election. I am sure. We have carried the State decidedly, as our whole State and Legislative ticket are elected. We hope Congress will not hesitate in removing the disabilities from two of our candidates, who cannot qualify without such legislation."

THE Ohio *Statesman*, the organ of ultra democracy, insists that if impeachment succeeds something terrible will happen. The only significance to be attached to the predictions of that paper, is the fact that leading Ohio Democrats, like Judge JEWETT, who has just returned from Washington, inspire them. Taken in connection with the mysterious intimations concerning the designs of the President relative to HANCOCK and GRANGER, in Washington, they possess a certain degree of interest. That Mr. JOHNSON may entertain the idea of doing something desperate is not at all improbable. He, as well as all the world beside, can now see that he has nothing to lose; that his case is so bad that it cannot be made much worse; and considering what folly he has committed, no one is safe in saying what he will not attempt. The *Statesman* may reflect correctly the disposition of the President, though he may after all be too great a coward to act it out.

THE majority of the Republican State ticket in Arkansas is about *thirty thousand*, and the Legislature is Republican by a decisive majority. This State was always reliable for the Democracy. It had just about as much to gain by the rebellion as a man with everything comfortable around him has in rushing headlong into a consuming fire. But it went into the rebellion nevertheless—that is, the Democrats carried it in, and we see it to-day under free suffrage, Republican in every fibre. Arkansas possesses many attractions of soil and climate, but the greatest of all her attractions and advantages is her free constitution.

THE Republican victory in Rhode Island this week is another indication of the determination of the country to fight the battle through to the end. Occurring, like the New Hampshire election, when every indication as to the working of the popular mind was watchfully regarded, and when any change would have had an extraordinary significance, the result has the importance of a skirmish, with decisive results, preliminary to a battle. It shows, furthermore, that the people stand steadily by Congress, and that they, too, impeach ANDREW JOHNSON.

THE HON. JOHN HICKMAN, of Chester, is reported to have left Harrisburg for his home, with the intention of not returning again. His course throughout the session has not been calculated either to make him useful to the State or satisfied with himself. In recent debates, especially, has he appeared to great disadvantage, both his manner and language having been so erratic as to call from the Republican side of the House unqualified dissent.

THE Free Railroad bill having been amended to obviate the objections of the Governor, and it having been passed by both branches of the Legislature, the question is disposed of for the present session. Though not what was desired the bill is a great step forward.

THE Registry Law for the whole State passed the Senate yesterday, and will go to the Governor for his approval—which it will receive. It is one of the most important bills of the session, and all who desire to see the ballot box kept pure, will thank the Legislature for passing it.

AS WE the other day intimated was probably the case, the ordering of General HANCOCK to the District of the Atlantic, is generally regarded as a part of a scheme of Mr. JOHNSON with which his last official days will be signalized. The selection of Gen. Gordon Granger as commander at Washington, in the place of Gen. EMORY, appears to have been decided on, though not announced. As to Granger the *Herald* correspondent says: "There is good reason to believe Gen. Granger is designed for some special mission, the time for which has not arrived, and his prolonged presence here, together with his frequent interviews at the White House, would seem to strengthen such belief. General HANCOCK, however, has not yet ordered any changes in departmental commanders and has not intimated that any such changes have been contemplated."

THE latest arrival from Havana brings us the intelligence that the idea of making that a free port had been broached and had been received with much favor. The different officers of the Treasury have been called upon by the Governor General to give their views upon the subject, and they have been most unanimous and conscientious in speaking of it very favorably. The Tribunal of Commerce have had two meetings in conjunction with all the principal merchants of the city, and have appointed a committee, composed of Senores Chavarry, Howard, (of the firm of Latimer & Co.,) and Borras, to take the matter into careful consideration. As their best judgment and their experience may direct, they will express their opinions and make their report. The people hail the project with much enthusiasm.

IT will probably be interesting to our lady readers to know that this spring they are permitted to consult their taste and gratify their vagaries, and still be in the fashion. In Paris, we are assured, there never was a time when so many different styles could be or were adopted. Thus you see in one *salon* short dresses, and dresses with trains a metre long; the empire style of *coiffure*, raised high to the top of the head, with small curls covering the forehead, and side by side with this a Grecian headdress, displaying the shape of the head and face in classic outlines. Then, again, some fair ladies have discarded crinolines altogether, while others have added dimensions to theirs. But in one thing all are agreed, and that is the constant changes which make a Parisian season of gaiety one of great costliness.

IT is stated on good authority that the depreciation in the value of farm land in the South since 1860, has been over $640,000,000 In a few sections an influx of Northern settlers has checked the depreciation, but generally, the South is in the lowest state of depression. In Louisiana, lands that were valued at $125 per acre in 1859, are now assessed at $5. Valuable sugar plantations, with machinery that costs hundreds of thousands of dollars, cannot be sold at any price. The *Bulletin* thinks that as we are now in the fourth year of peace, it is time to look for more favorable developments, and for at least the beginning of a restoration of prosperity.

THE somewhat famous "J. B. S.," of the *World*, is predicting the acquittal of the President, chiefly because too many Republican Senators prefer him to Wade. From no source, however, is the prediction fortified. The fact that "old heads" like Weed have already begun to parcel the offices, or attempt to do so, is proof enough that they think it is all up with the President, and they are not often mistaken.

THE *Herald* doubts not that Senator WADE "will come in with the flowers of May." When that happens it will have just one favor to ask at his hands, viz: "that Horace Greeley shall be Postmaster General." If all signs do not fail and rumor prove false, the *Herald* will not be disappointed.

THE latest news from Connecticut is that those Republicans who carefully investigated the prospect confidently expect a victory on the Monday next. The strongest element in the canvass is Gen. Grant as a Presidential candidate.

Who Shall be the Republican Candidate for Vice President?

The New York *Sun* reviews the list of Republican candidates for the Vice Presidency, and the prospect of the several gentlemen named for the nomination. New England brings forward Gov. Buckingham, Senator Wilson, Gov. Banks, Gov. Harriman, and ex-Vice President Hamlin. The Middle States present Gov. Fenton, Gov. Curtin, and Senator Cresswell. The West brings out Senator Wade, Speaker Colfax, and Senator Pomeroy. The Pacific slope presents Senator Cole, Gov. Low, and Senators Nye, Corbett, and Williams. Others of lesser note have also been suggested. The *Sun* remarks that "as General Grant's home is on the banks of the Mississippi, the presumption is strong that the second candidate will be located east of the Alleghenies; unless, indeed, the Pacific States, because of their remote position, should claim that, viewed from their standpoint, Grant is not a Western man." Its opinion is that did not Wade and Colfax "reside in such close proximity to the principal candidate they would present irresistible claims to the nomination." As it is, however, should Mr. Wade become President for the residue of Mr. Johnson's term, the circumstance would greatly strengthen his chances. "If the candidate is selected this side of the mountains," says the *Sun*, "the list narrows down to Gov. Curtin, Gov. Fenton, Governor Buckingham, Senator Wilson, and Vice President Hamlin." Of Ex-Governor Curtin the *Sun* speaks as follows:

> Gov. Curtin is the regular nominee of the party in Pennsylvania. He is a gentleman of high attainments, and popular with the volunteers, because of his action in the war. He has an indefatigable energy, but he encounters a good deal of hostility from rivals in his own State. Gov. Fenton has the delegates from New York. He is an indefatigable organizer and a shrewd tactician, but the opposition to him in some quarters has already shown itself in a marked manner in the Legislature at Albany. Governor Buckingham is popular in Connecticut, and is a gentleman of great purity of character. Though his State is small, yet, should it go for the Republicans in the pending election, his name would have a good deal of weight at Chicago.

The *Sun* concludes its discussion of the candidates as follows:

> Senator Wilson received the party nomination in the Massachusetts Convention. He is a man of great vigor, a successful organizer, has made his mark in the Senate, has a national reputation, stands well with the Republicans of the south, among whom he made an extensive tour last year, and should he be able to combine all the outlet all the New England votes in the Convention, would be very likely to receive the nomination. The friends of Mr. Hamlin are numerous throughout the Union. Formerly a leader of the Democracy, he resigned his seat in the Senate, and left the party because of their coercive slavery upon the people of Kansas. He was undoubtedly a favorite with the Democracy of Maine by about 30,000 majority, carrying with him a large portion of the Democratic vote. In 1864 he made way for the nomination of Mr. Johnson as Vice President. Mr. Lincoln, just previous to his assassination, appointed him collector of the Port of Boston. He subsequently resigned this lucrative office because he did not concur in the reconstruction policy of Mr. Johnson. Of fixed opinions, stern integrity, superior talents, and unflinching courage, his name is quietly but widely urged by Republicans who think that he would form a just ruler, and who are for the error of setting him aside four years ago, to now place him on the ticket with Gen. Grant.

The New Building on Ontario Street.

The Chicago Historical Society are at present engaged in removing to their new building on Ontario street, between Dearborn and State. The structure is built in the Tuscan style, of brick, with stone facings, and has a front of forty-five feet by one hundred and sixty feet. It is two stories in height, with basement. The front is pierced with three arched windows below, while the upper portion has a large window, extending the entire width of the front, with double pilasters. The main entrance is on North Dearborn street. On the first floor are the lecture and reading rooms, the latter of which will be stocked with all the choicest current literature, while on the second floor are the library and picture gallery. The library contains about twenty thousand volumes and pamphlets, and the picture gallery. The basement is one room, divided by an arch and occupied by the furnace.

We are constantly reminded by such paragraphs as the above in our exchanges, how far our own city is falling behind in the amenities of advanced civilization. We have no magnificent Historical Society building with its library of 20,000 volumes; no "Historical Society." That which was organized just after the memorable centennial celebration on the 25th of November, 1858, died within the year. The half dozen gentlemen who would have gladly persevered in keeping up the organization, were compelled to succumb to the surrounding indifferences and discouragements. The Young Men's Mercantile Library is the only kindred institution in our midst of any prominence, and even its deserved popularity has only resulted thus far in the accumulation of about 10,000 volumes. Insignificant as this collection appears in comparison with those of some cities scarcely one-fourth the size of Pittsburgh, we trust it is the foundation upon which ere long will be erected a structure worthy of the civilization and wealth of a great city.

The first great step in the accomplishment of the desired object must be the erection of a proper building for the accommodation of the library and its accessories, should be no mere make-shift, nothing contemptible or mean, but a building of architectural fitness to its purpose, and which with its accumulating contents of choice literature and art, may be the pride of our citizens for a century. We trust this view of the subject will be shared by the gentlemen who have in charge the erection of the Library Hall, and that there are men enough in Pittsburgh who appreciate it, to furnish the necessary funds. The lot on Penn street which has been purchased by the Association, is the very best in the city for their purpose, and nearly three-fourths of the requisite sum of money for the building was subscribed two years ago. Why longer delay? Let us have the satisfaction to republish the list of subscribers to the fund, together with the names of those who make up the additional sum needed, as soon as possible, coupled with the announcement that a building is in progress which take away the shame of such contrasts as are presented in the teaching of this article.

General Lee's "Loyal Institution."

Facts are being daily developed which prove that Washington College, Lexington, Va., of which General R. E. Lee is President, is one of the most virulent rebel institutions in the land—a school for the propagation of hatred to the Government and its loyal people. From the Principal down to the humblest tutor, the Faculty are thoroughly rebel in sentiment and act accordingly, if we may believe a Lexington correspondent of the *Independent*. It is only a few weeks since that Mr. E. C. Johnston, a merchant of Lexington, who unfortunately hailed from the East, was attacked on the North river while skating by seventy-five young sprigs of chivalry, students at the College, and severely beaten simply because he was "a Yankee." Mr. Johnston applied to General Wilcox for protection, and the latter called on General Lee, who promised to prevent further outrages, and General Wilcox was satisfied. The students, however, gave Mr. Johnston notice that if he did not leave Lexington within a specified time they would hang him, and through the counsel of his friends he did leave. In view of such facts as these, is it not astonishing that Henry Ward Beecher, Horace Greeley, Gerritt Smith and other northern men will lend their countenance and give of their means to support such a hot-bed of proscription and embryo treason?

Dry Tortugas.

The telegraph informs us that Col. Grenfell, a prisoner at the Dry Tortugas, has escaped from that post. We learn that the escape took place on the night between the 6th and 7th of March last, and that the Colonel managed to take along with him three other prisoners and one of the soldiers who were on guard at the time, being the one who was the sentinel in charge of the boats connected with the post, whilst he was on guard. It is supposed that this Colonel in some way managed to bribe the guard to desert, and to aid him and the other three prisoners to escape. As soon as the escape was discovered the United States steamer Bibb was sent out in search of the fugitives, but she failed to find any trace of them. On the night of the escape it was blowing a gale, and as the boat which they took was but small and in bad condition, it is probable that they all perished.

Colonel Grenfell is said to be a notorious character. About a year and a half ago, an anonymous letter from the Tortugas was published in a New York Copperhead paper, and republished in one of our Pittsburgh cotemporaries. This letter charged the officers at the Tortugas with gross misconduct in the management of the post. These charges, upon a proper inquiry being instituted, were found to be entirely false, and the authorship of the letter was traced to Col. Grenfell. If the ocean has not wallowed up him and his fellow fugitives, it will probably not be long until he will by some act of villiany let it be known where he is.

Vacant Diplomatic Offices.

There is an unusual number of diplomatic offices vacant at present, which it may fall to the lot of Mr. Wade to fill. Among the most important of these are—the Austrian Mission, to which it is suggested to re-appoint J. Lothrop Motley; the Russian Mission, resigned by Cassius M. Clay; the Missions to Mexico, Buenos Ayres, Bolivia, Ecuador, United States of Colombia and Hayti. In addition to these the Missions to Great Britain, Spain, Portugal and Chile, it is said, will certainly be vacant on a change of administration. In view of the number and importance of these offices, it will be remarkable to see how many warm friends Mr. Wade has under the circumstances in his Presidential aspiration, by their offers to relieve him of anxiety in making the appointments in their favor.

GEN. BURNSIDE was in Indianapolis when he heard that he had been re-elected Governor of Rhode Island. It took him by surprise, as he was under the impression that the election did not take place till this week. He was compelled to change his arrangements, so as to enable him to go home to be inaugurated. The General is not likely ever to be charged with using underhanded means to procure his election.

The Governor's Veto of the Railroad Law.

The free railroad law which passed both Houses of the Legislature was vetoed by Governor Geary for two reasons, first because of its doubtful constitutionality and second because of the inexpediency of the sixth section. The first objection arose from the fact that the bill conferred sundry powers and privileges on railroads heretofore created and long since in successful operation, while the title of the bill was "an act to authorize the formation of railroad companies;" or in other words, the act conflicted with the Constitution, which provides that only one subject shall be embraced in any one bill and that must be clearly expressed in its title. The second objection is to the unlimited power of the stockholders to increase their capital stock, a power which the Governor holds to be inimical to every clear idea of Republican government and productive only of evil results. While withholding his assent from this bill, the Governor expresses his earnest desire to co-operate with the Legislature in all its efforts to promote the general welfare, and will with pleasure approve of a railroad bill free from the objections referred to.

The Grant and Butler Reconciliation.

After the voluntary declaration for Grant for President by Thaddeus Stevens, most of persons were prepared to hear almost anything in that line. Therefore the report that Grant and Butler had become reconciled created no great surprise. The way it came about is detailed as follows:

> "It is understood that the difficulty between General Butler and General Grant has been at last amicably arranged. The friends of both parties have been engaged for some time past in a sort of diplomatic correspondence with the view of bringing them together.
>
> "The chief actor in this business has been George Wilkes, who has been here for some weeks, ostensibly as a spectator of the impeachment trial, but really as a negotiator between Generals Grant and Butler. General Butler's resentment against General Grant has been very bitter.
>
> "He could not well forget the pungent criticism on his military services when he alluded to him in his report as being 'corked up' at Bermuda Hundreds. After this had been satisfactorily explained away by the diplomatic Wilkes, General Butler said that General Grant had humiliated him by sending him an invitation to his reception after having stated to the country in his report that he was 'corked up.' This also was fully explained, and General Butler has at last consented to smoke the pipe of peace."

In this connection it may be stated that among the rumors—probable and improbable, but chiefly improbable—at Washington, is the one that President Wade will, with the approbation of Grant, send Butler as Minister to England, and that Mr. Adams, the retiring Minister, will be invited to a seat in the Cabinet.

Senator Wilson on General Grant

Senator Wilson has written a letter to the *Anti-Slavery Standard* repelling the assertion that he "works for Grant, who is no Radical, and objects to other candidates, who are Radicals, because they sometimes drink." The Senator says he has been a "pledged temperance man for thirty-seven years;" that he knows of "no Radical, whose name has been mentioned for the Presidency who gets drunk," or to whom he has objected because he drinks. Of General Grant, he says:

> "I have seen General Grant in the camp, in his office, and at his table at dinner parties where liquors were freely used by others, but I have never seen him drink or touch a glass. I have never seen him when I had the slightest reason to think he was in any degree under the influence of liquor. I say further that I work for Grant, who is not a Radical. I have done little or nothing for General Grant. It was not necessary that any one should work for him. The Republicans of nearly every State, to a great unanimity, have pronounced for him, but this result was not achieved by work, but by the needs of the country and the instinct of the loyal and patriotic people. I took occasion more than two years ago to express my belief and my full conviction that a patriotic and liberty-loving people, betrayed by the Administration into a conflict with secession and summon him to marshal them to victory. Thirty days ago I only commit myself to the anti-slavery cause, and I have never failed to solemnly vote to advance it to its final and crowning triumph. It was because I was an anti-slavery man, a Republican, because I believed the cause of equal and impartial liberty, the safety and welfare and the interests of public men, and because I believed General Grant would carry out these principles that I turned to him as the Presidential candidate of the Republican party. His clear, strong intellect, just and firm man, whose fidelity to his country and to the equal rights of all his countrymen cannot be questioned."

European Armaments.

The movement initiated by Prussia for the disarmament of the European nations has a deep significance; and this will be understood when it is known that the standing army of Europe at the present time numbers 7,500,000 men, at a total cost of $1,440,000,000 annually, to say nothing of the expenses of forts, fleets, armaments and other burthens of semi-warfare. This is the cost of the peace establishment, it should be remembered; what it would be in case of a general war, can scarcely be imagined. Under this system nearly every European nation is bankrupt. Prussia is the only country that pays its way; even the government of Great Britain thinks that it is sufficient to pay the interest on the public debt without dreaming of paying the principal. In France, Austria, Russia, Spain, Italy and the minor nations, the expenses exceed the income. The people are everywhere taxed to the utmost of their capacity, and failing that resource, borrowing is resorted to. In sixteen years France spent 800,000,000 francs ($160,000,000) in excess of the receipts. The other continental governments are equally behind them.

Mr. Wade Committed.

Mr. Wade stands committed, in case he becomes President, to give women a share of the foreign appointments, and one woman in particular. The following explains in what manner.

> *To His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States.*
>
> SIR: Knowing, as I do that the time has come when women of capacity and talent may properly represent this Government at foreign courts and in foreign countries, I most respectfully and earnestly solicit for and recommend the appointment of Mrs. Frances Lord Bond to such position as may be compatible with the interests and the honor of the country. Respectfully, B. F. WADE.
>
> Washington, D. C., November 25, 1867.

As Mr. Wade is not the sort of man to advise another to do what he would not do himself, says the New York *Sun*, it is clear that one of his first acts after taking the oath of office as President, will be to nominate Mrs. Frances Lord Bond to succeed Mr. Adams as the representative of the United States at the British Court. It is understood that she particularly desires that place, and we presume that Mr. Wade will not refuse her.

The Erie War at Albany.

A letter from Albany says:

> "Two great contests are impending—one on the subject of underground railroads, which commenced on Monday evening in the Senate—the other on the revival of the Erie Railroad bill. The Vanderbilt men have not made good their promises. The five hundred 'arguments' which they offered to their friends have not been made tangible, and hence the disaffection witnessed in the action on the *pro rata* freight bills. The Erie men are making advantage of this state of affairs, and they seem determined to make amends for their recent supply conduct in leaving the lobby and the 'rings' in the lurch. They are spending money like water, and while they are entertaining all who honor their quarters with a visit, dispensing champagne and cigars *ad libitum*, they do not forget the arguments which are most convincing."

What would our Legislature not give if they only could transfer the Erie War to Harrisburg.

THE Vanderbilt-Drew war is lively at Albany, and it is not so certain that the Commodore will come off victorious in the end. There is a strong feeling against him, and an evident disposition in the Legislature not to be in a hurry to deny Mr. Drew the legislation he asks to legalize the extraordinary issue of stock. Plenty of money in ready to be spent if necessary on both sides, and it is not safe to conclude that the question will be decided on its merits. The latest report hints at a compromise which means that Drew has the advantage. Were the question in the Pennsylvania instead the New York Legislature, of course no such suspicion would attach. Did we not know that our legislators are above suspicion, we might conceive the envy they must feel in view of the clover in which their brothers in the Empire State are revelling. A New York letter says:

> Private telegrams from Albany say the Senate is sure to pass the (Drew) bill, legalizing the issue of bonds and the conversion of stock; also legalizing acts of the Erie Company in entering into contracts with the Boston, Hartford, Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana Railroad Company; also, providing that no director, stockholder or other officer in either the New York Central, Hudson River or Harlem Company shall be a director or officer of the Erie Company, nor shall any Erie director or other officer have any official connection with the Erie; and finally, prohibiting the Erie from controlling its stock or dividing its earnings with the Hudson River or Harlem Railroad Companies. The act is to take effect immediately.

We have before stated that a thorough investigation into the corruption incident to the Vanderbilt-Drew war in the New York Legislature, as well as the occasion for it, is one of the incidental results of that fierce controversy. We now hear that important steps have been taken looking towards the impeachment of Judge Barnard, on the allegation that he was influenced by corrupt men in granting certain injunctions against the Drew party. We learn from a New York letter that James T. Brady, David Dudley Field and another eminent lawyer, Mr. Barrill, have had a meeting under an order issued by one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, to thereat much testimony bearing on the accusation was taken. This proceeding is creating a great sensation, and is looked upon as another card to be played by Drew against his antagonist. If out of a controversy where both sides indulge in the most sweeping charges of corruption should come a reform of the Legislature and Judiciary of New York, there will be something to rejoice over.

THE *Herald's* correspondent says considerable speculation is afloat as to what the President means by the use he is making of General Hancock. The writer says: "That the President has prepared some plan of action upon which he means to act should certain events transpire a great many Radicals fully suspect, and the palns that were taken by the President to have Hancock fairly installed at the beginning of the impeachment trial lend something of confirmation to their suspicions."

Senator Wade's Views on Protection.

Mr. Wade has addressed the following letter to the Secretary of the American Industrial League:

WASHINGTON, February 27, 1868.

John Williams, Esq.:

DEAR SIR—I am in receipt of your letter and the address, &c. You are right in supposing me in hearty sympathy with the objects of your League. The subject is by far the most important that can occupy the thoughts of a statesman, and, indeed, all others, and I shall be glad to co-operate in every way possible. At present, in these exciting times, I have so much on hand that it is impossible for me to do my best wishes for your success, and whenever I can find an opportunity to lend a helping hand, it shall be done with a will. With great respect,

B. F. WADE.

THE Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette* relates the latest sensation story, to the effect that a short time prior to the evacuation of Fort Moultrie and the occupation of Sumter, a gentleman of Charleston made his way mysteriously, at night, to Major Anderson, with an order from James Buchanan for a quantity of United States muskets. There being no alternative, the order being regular and peremptory, they were delivered, and shortly after used against Major Anderson's men. The story is a clumsy invention, for South Carolina had already seized, without an order from any one, some fifteen thousand United States muskets stored in the Charleston arsenal.

AS WE have already stated nine of the eleven State Senators whose terms expire with the present session are Republicans. Col. McClure, in reviewing in the Chambersburg *Repository* the chances of the succession, says it is barely possible the Democrats will gain two Senators, one in the Twelfth and one in the Nineteenth District, thus making a change of four, which would still leave a Republican majority of one in the Senate. He concludes, however, that the probability is that next Fall the Republicans will elect eight Senators and the Democrats three.

IT is true, as is reported, that Philadelphia Banks, which instead of accommodating their own customers, sent their funds to New York, to realize a higher rate of interest, experienced great difficulty, and have met with some loss, few will be inclined to indulge in regrets. For a considerable time New York has absorbed largely the funds of the country at extraordinary rates. Local institutions should accommodate home den and first, and go abroad only when this has been done. If they do so before they have done this, it will be but simple justice if they suffer some for it.

IS the matter of overloaded street cars, a bill in the New York Legislature, applicable to New York and Brooklyn, goes to the bottom. It requires that every street passenger car in those cities shall, on or before the first day of May next, have divisions affixed to the seats, similar to those now in use on ferry boats between said cities, such divisions to be placed at least twenty inches apart. It adds, that on cars which have no such